

Urusei Vatsura



Story & Art by RUMIKO TAKAHASHI



Uruset Yatsura

Part 9



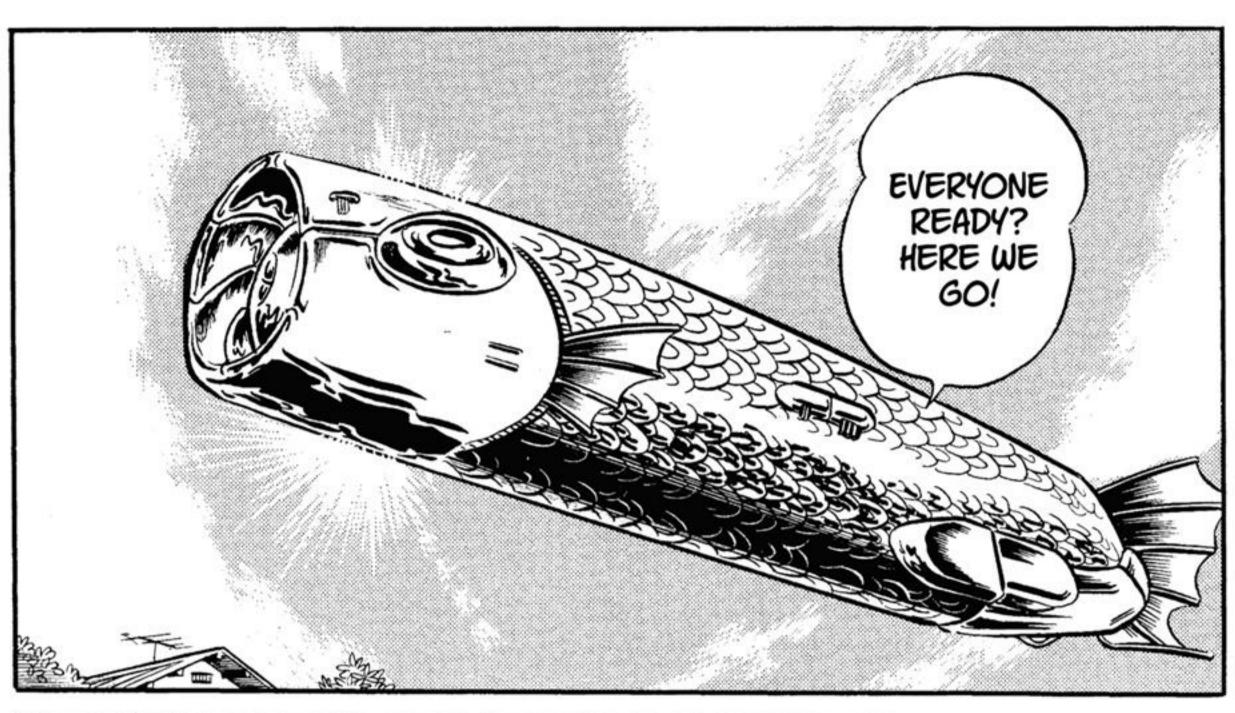
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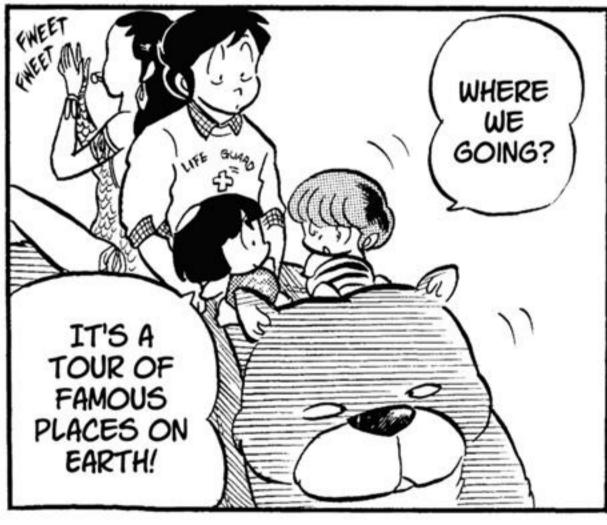
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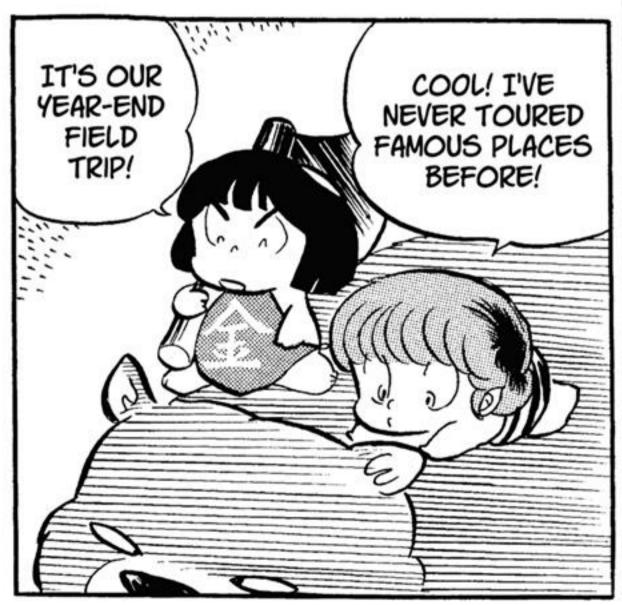


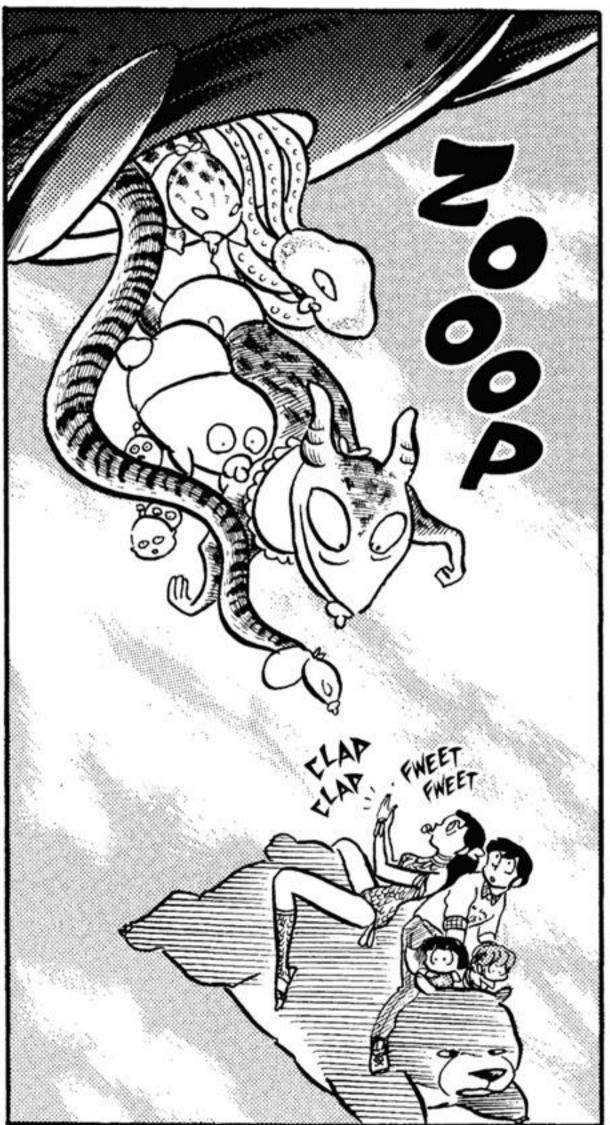
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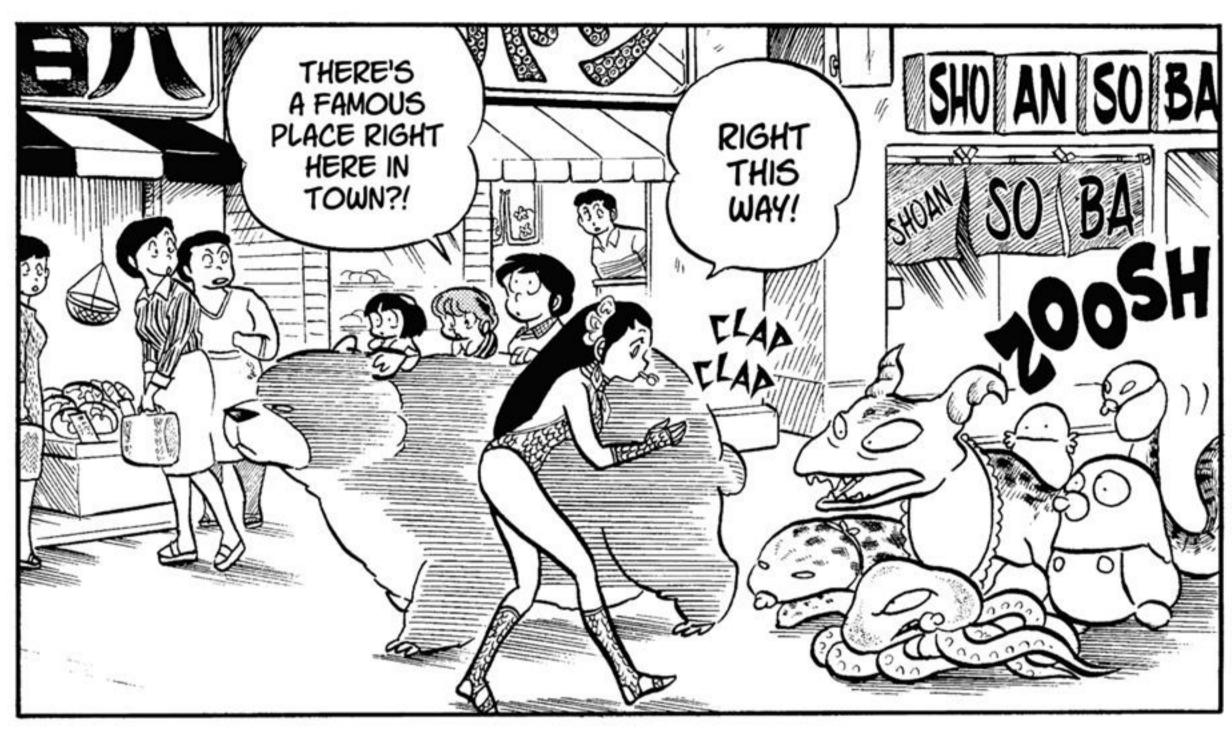




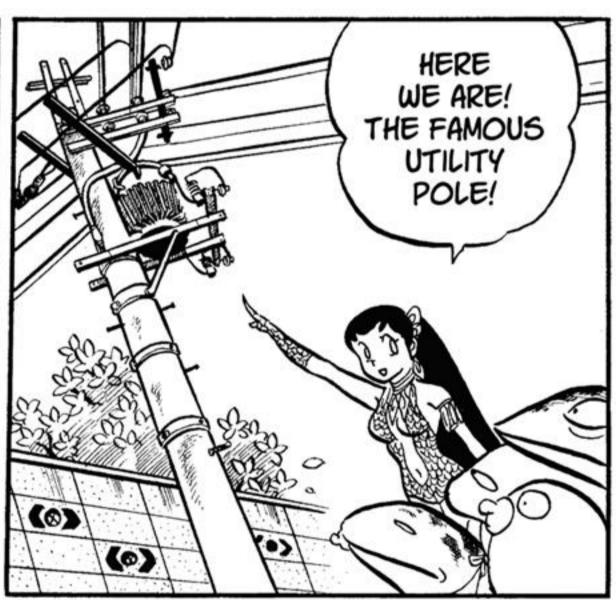


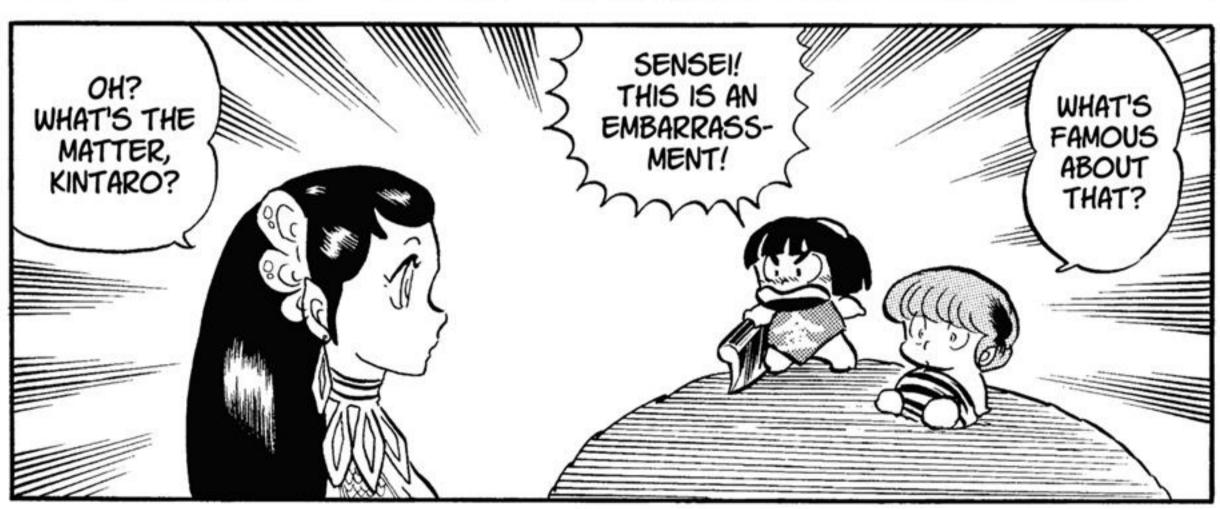


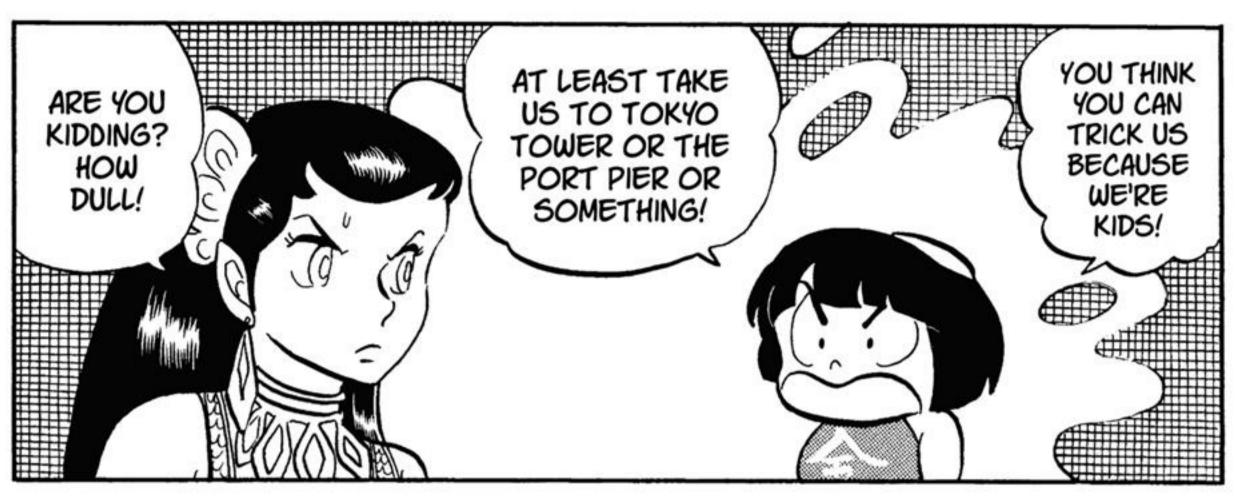




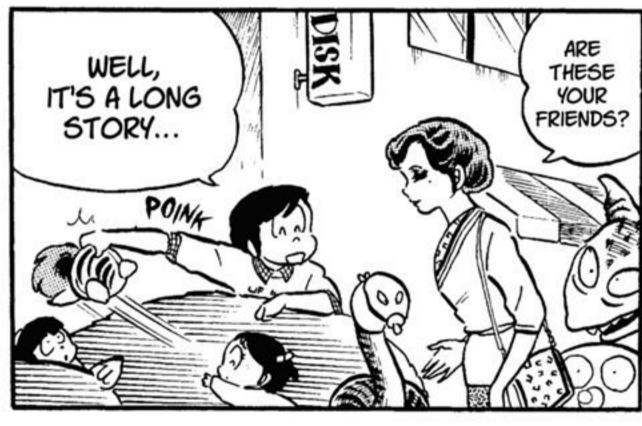




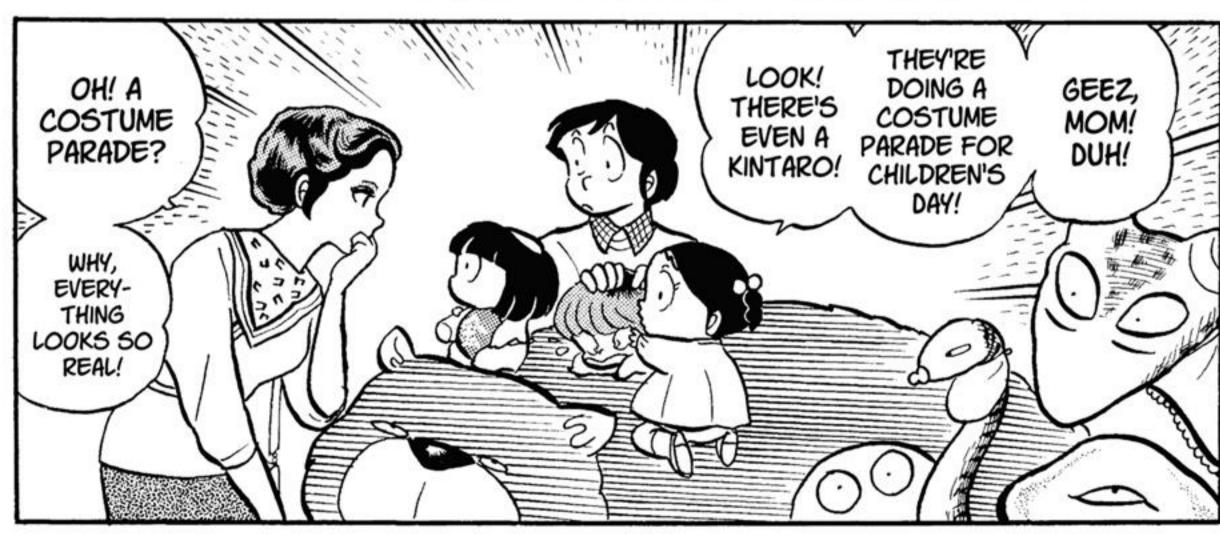


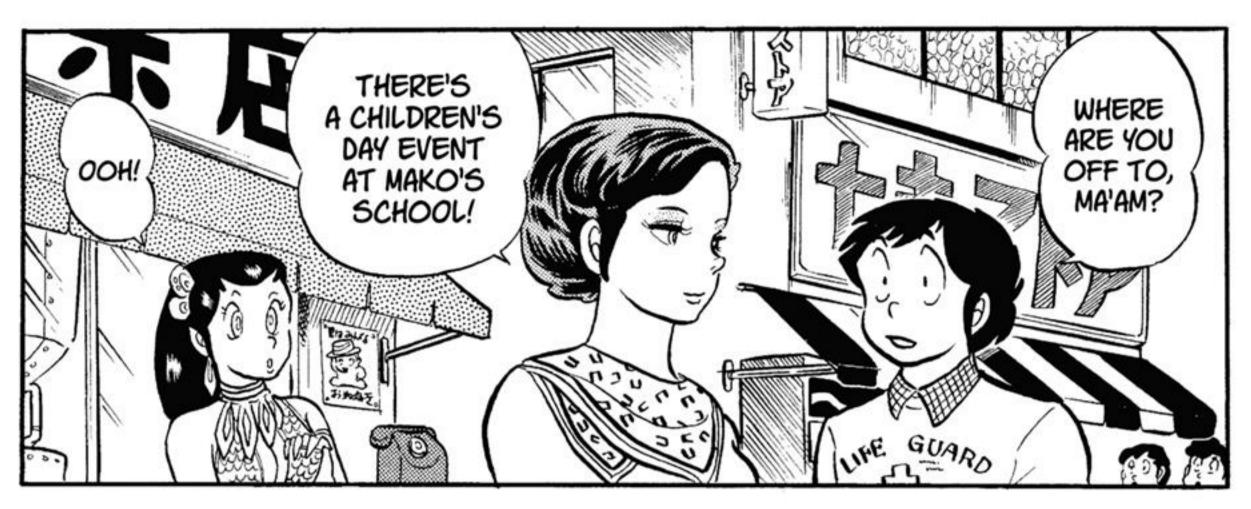


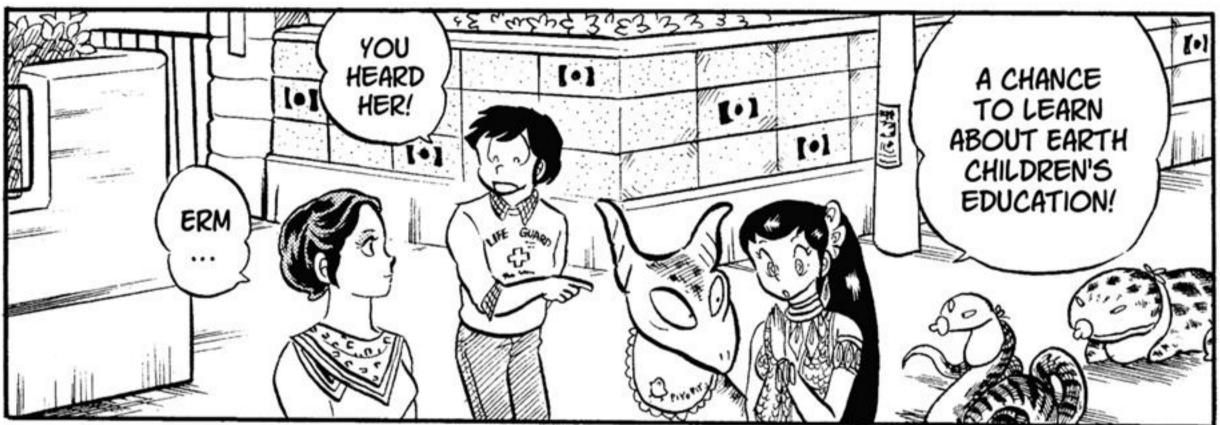


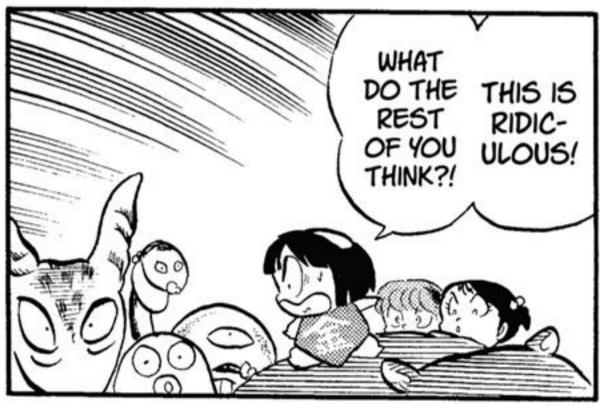




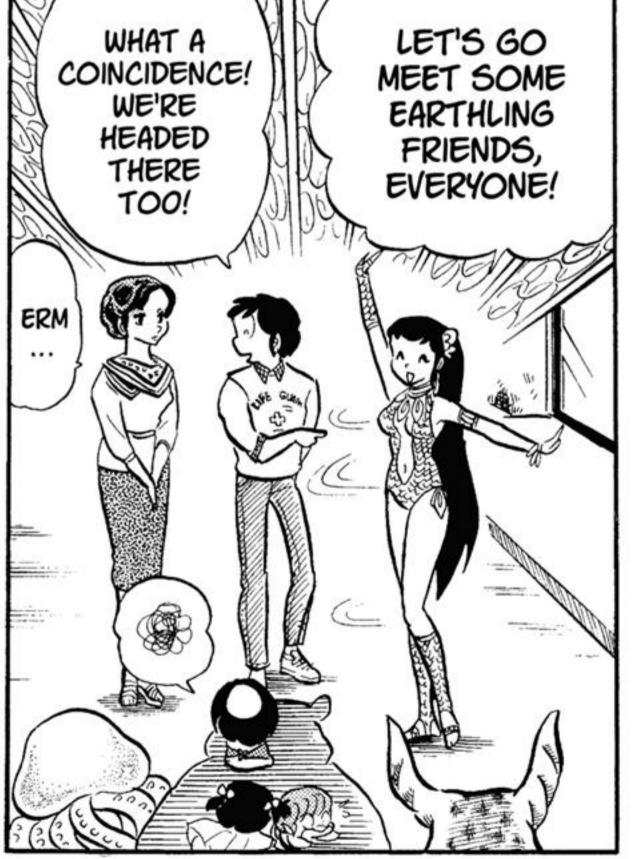














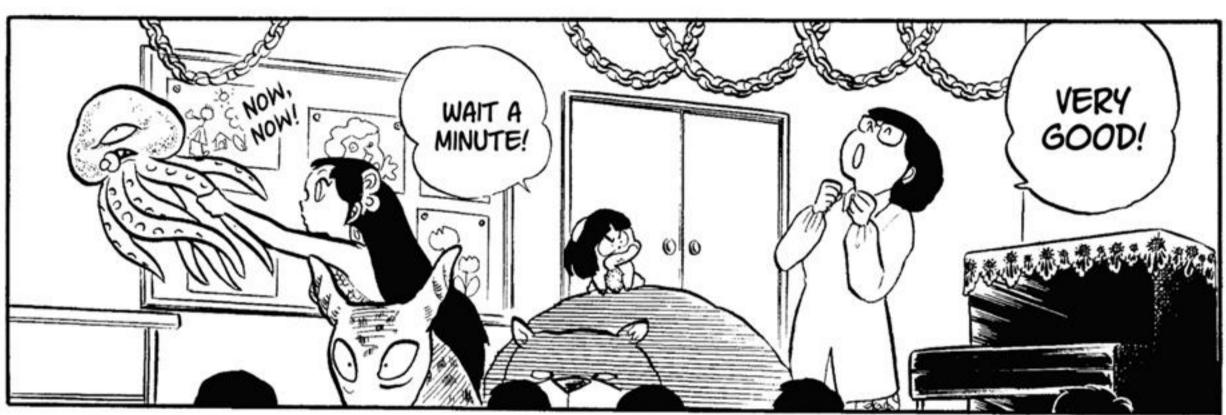








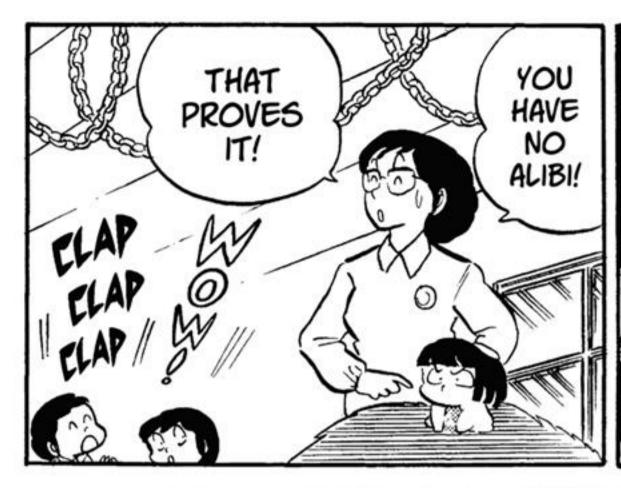


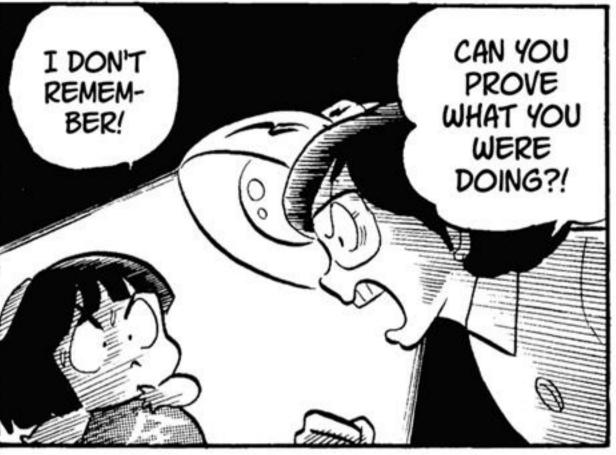










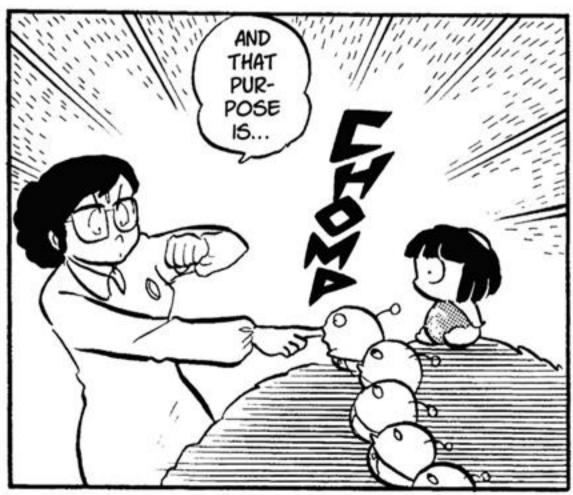




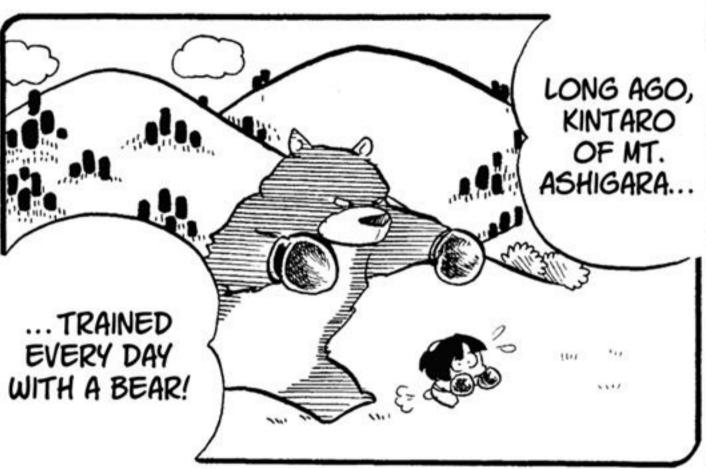
















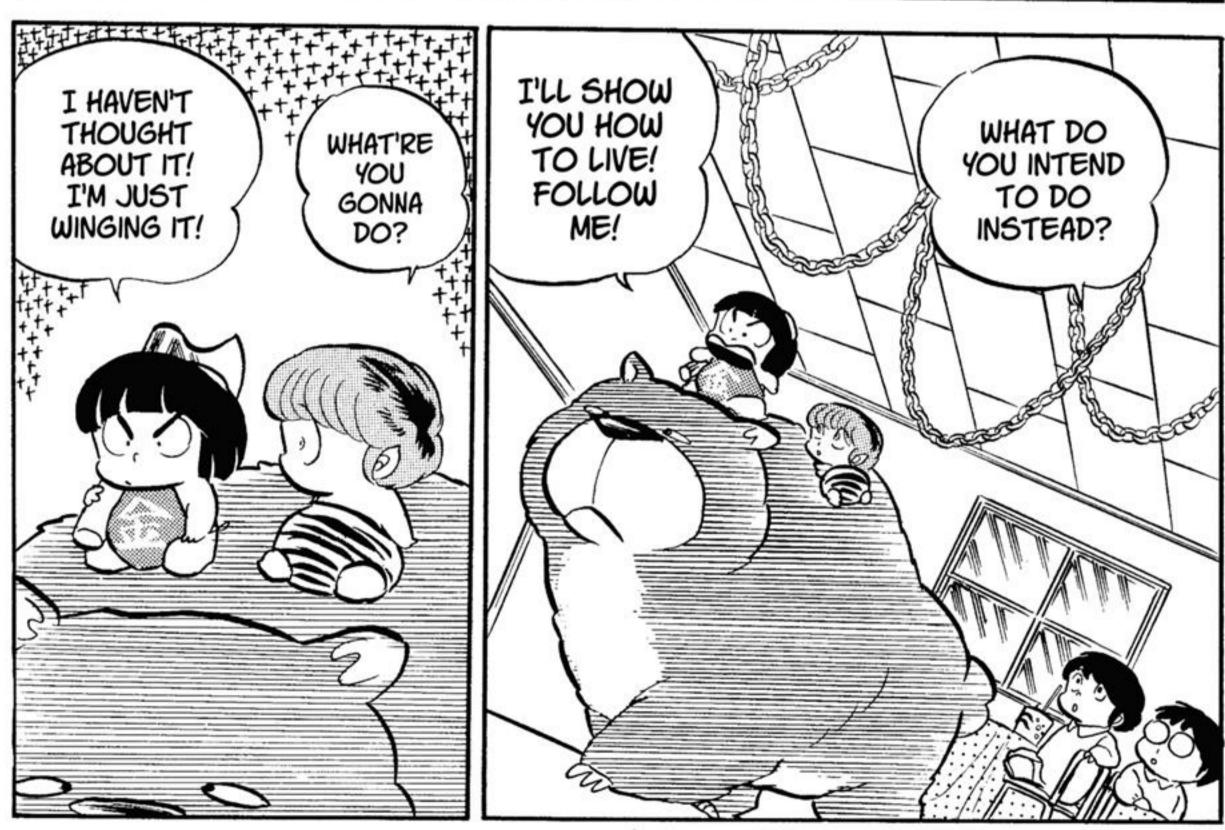




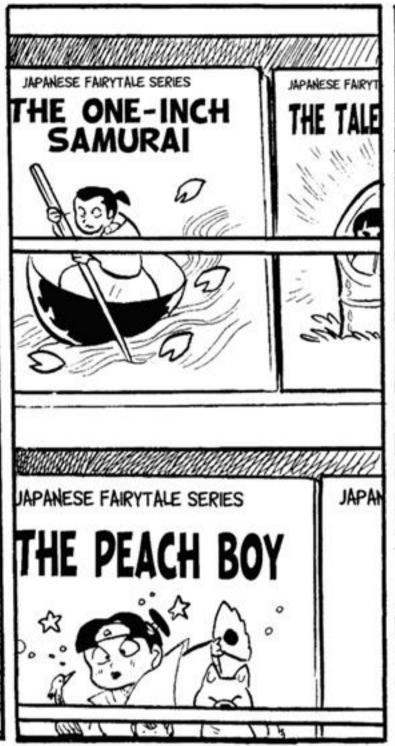


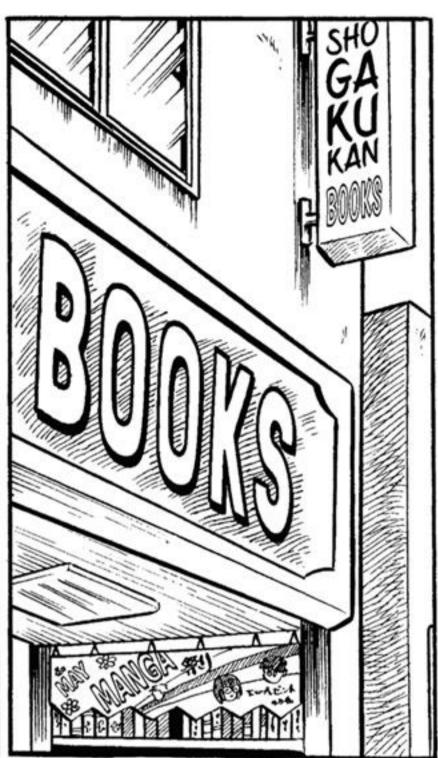


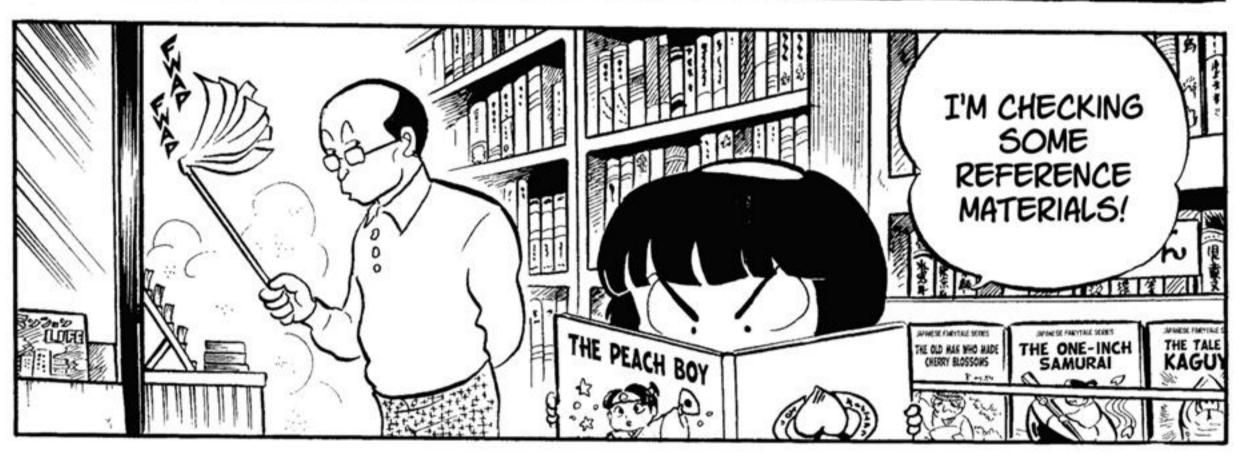










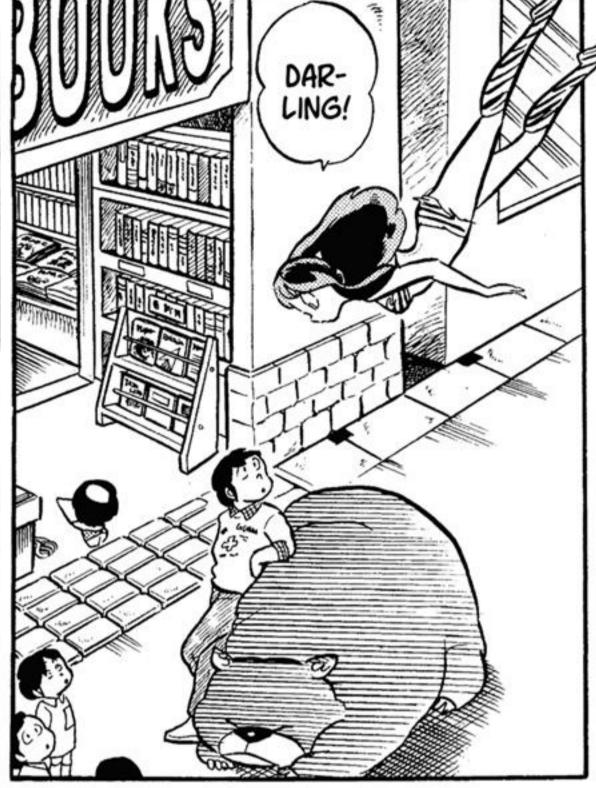


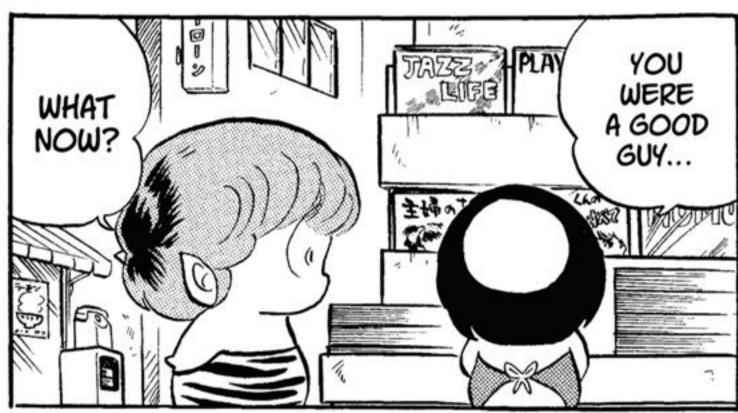


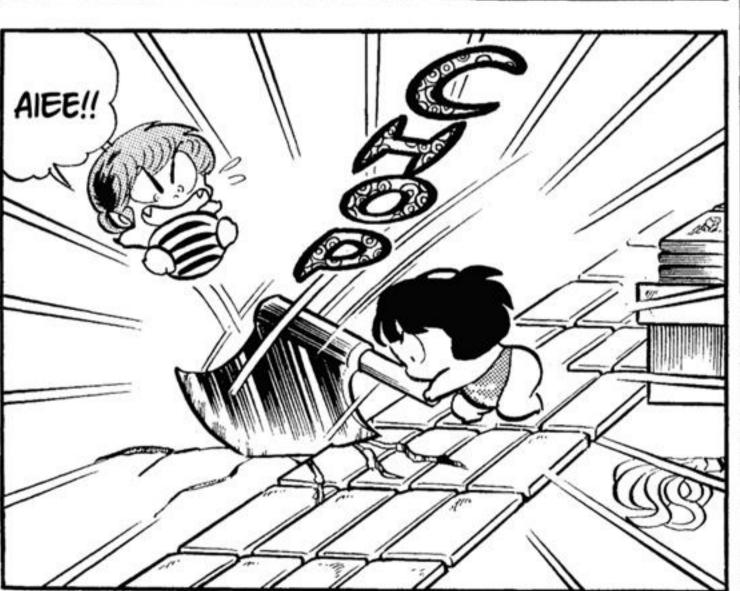




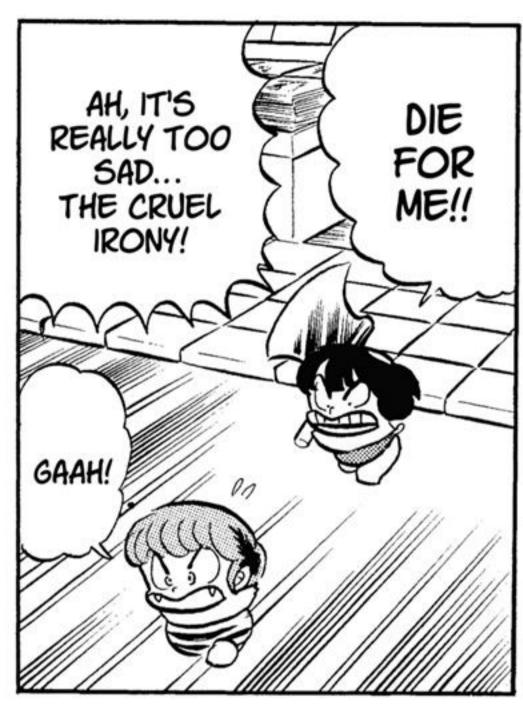






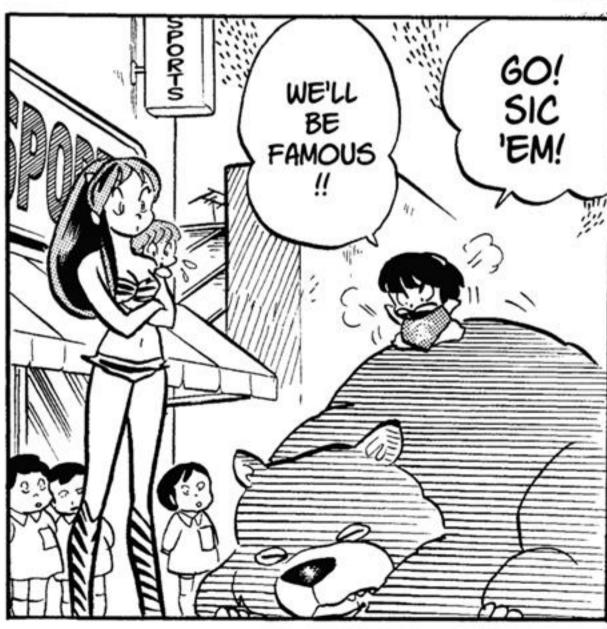


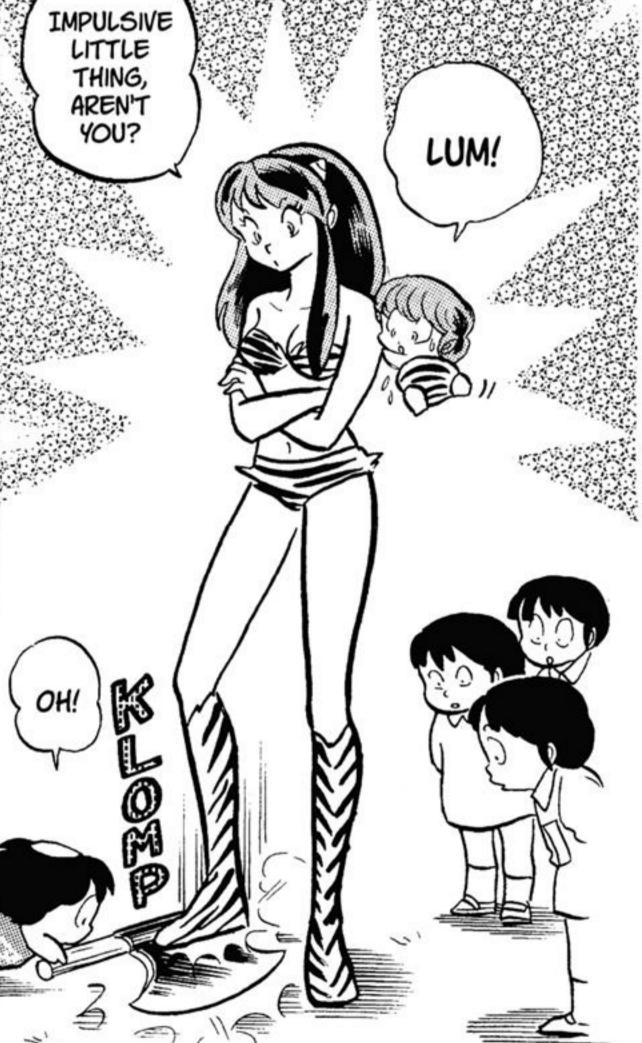


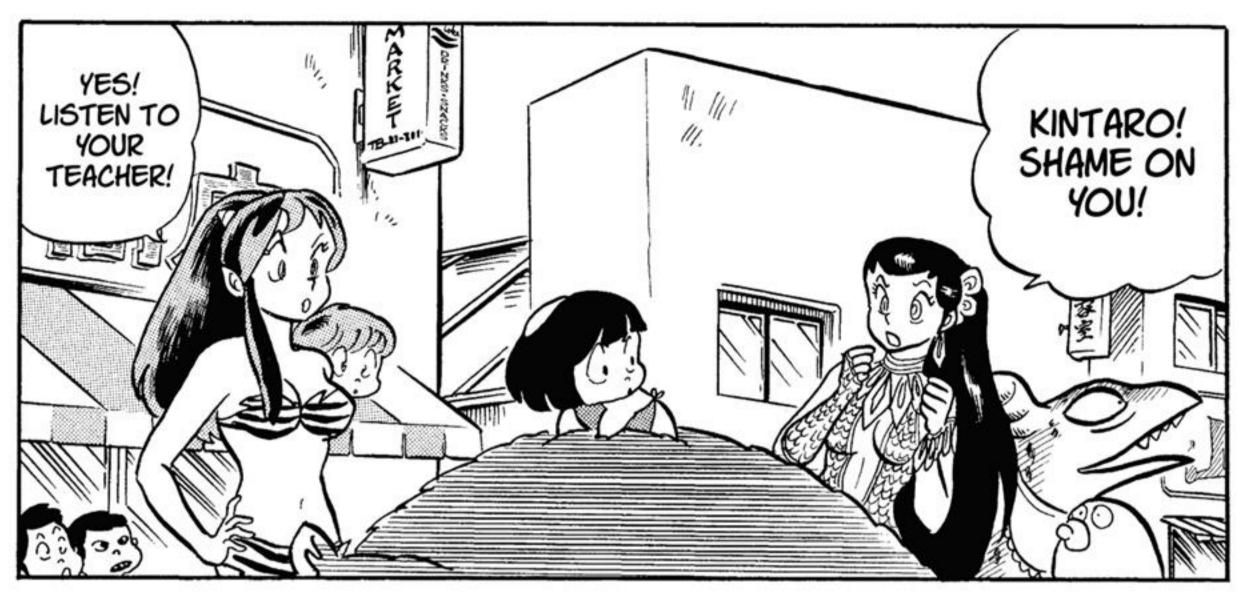
















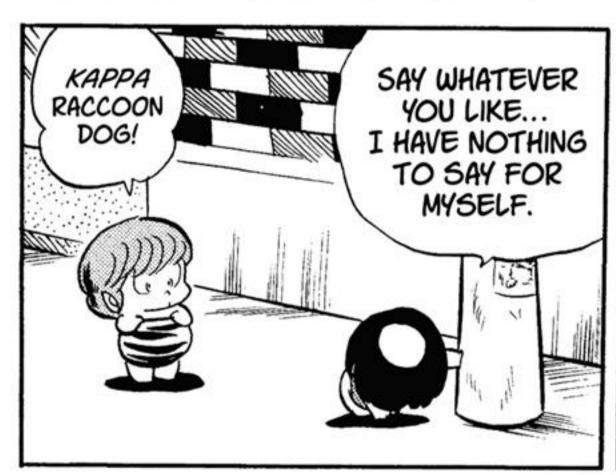












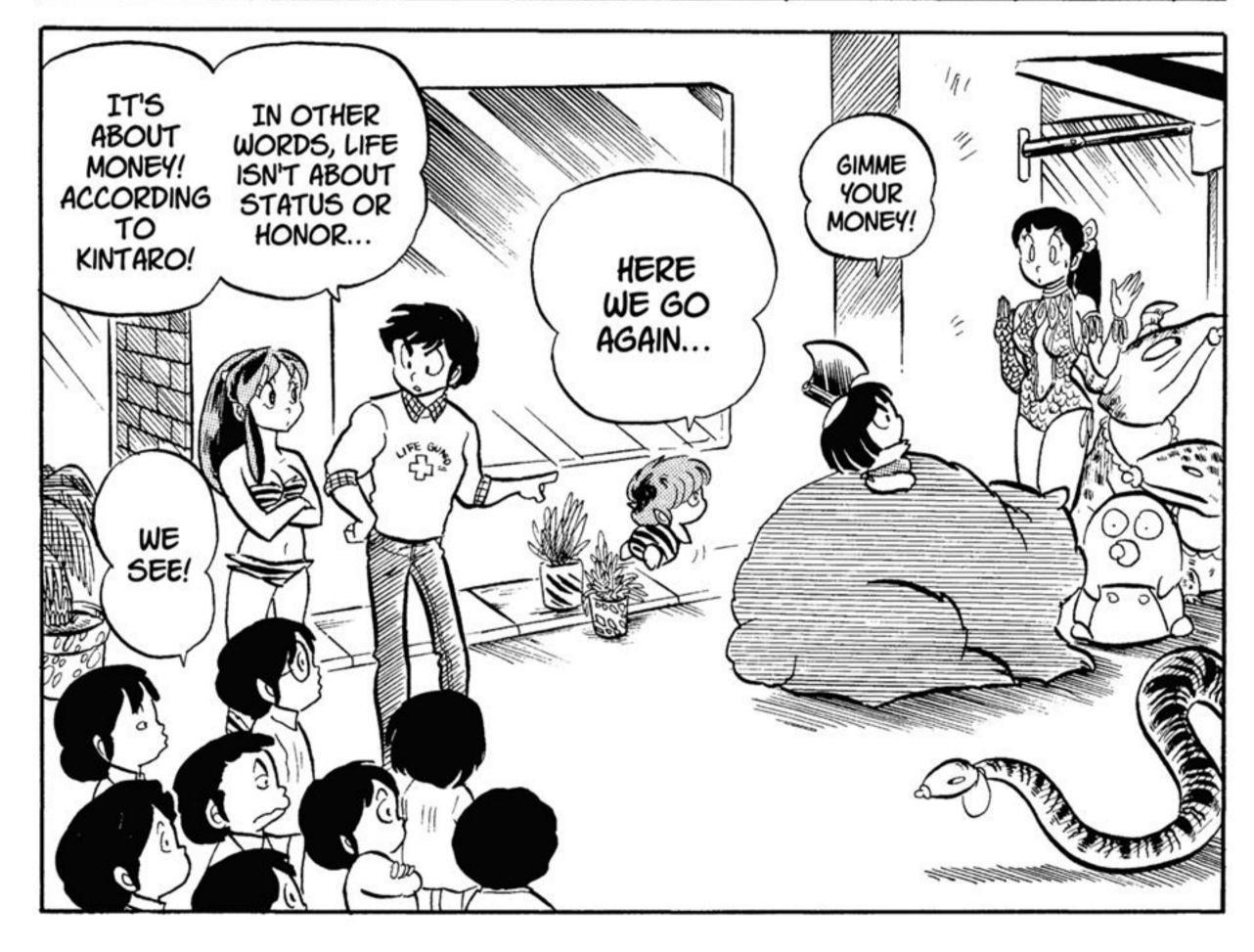










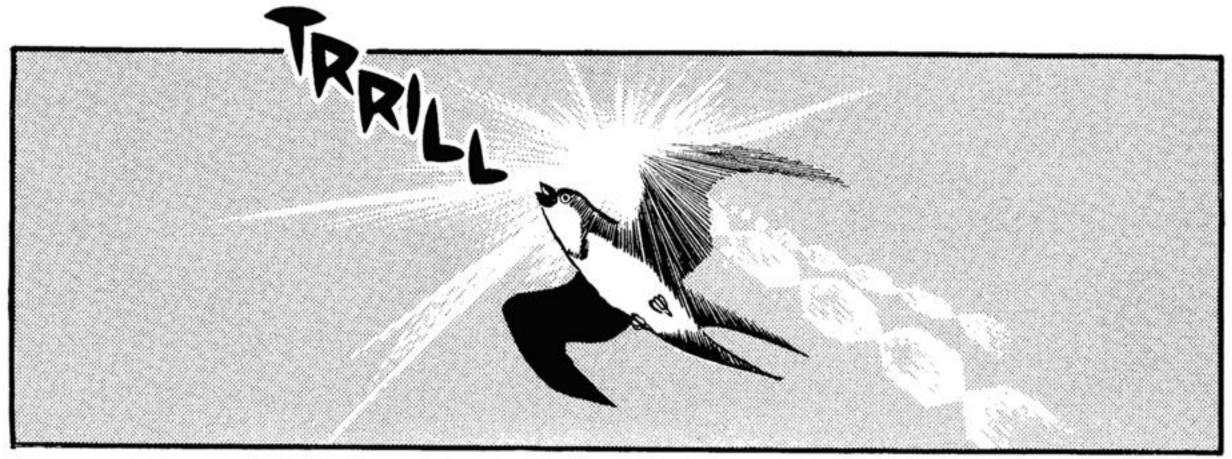


CHAPTER 2: THE SWALLOW AND THE PENGUIN



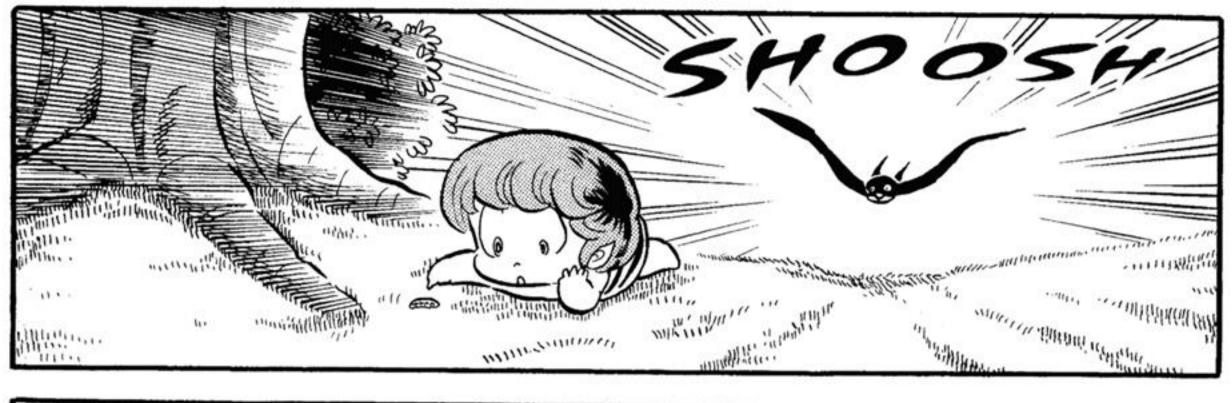
SWALLOW (HIRUNDINIDAE FAMILY), 17 CM IN LENGTH

ACTUALLY NESTS AND REARS YOUNG
IN THE EAVES OF HUMAN HOUSES.
EATS MOSQUITOS, FLIES, WORMS, ETC.
THE SWALLOW'S CALL IS SAID TO SOUND LIKE,
"EATING DIRT AND EATING BUGS IS BIT-TER!"





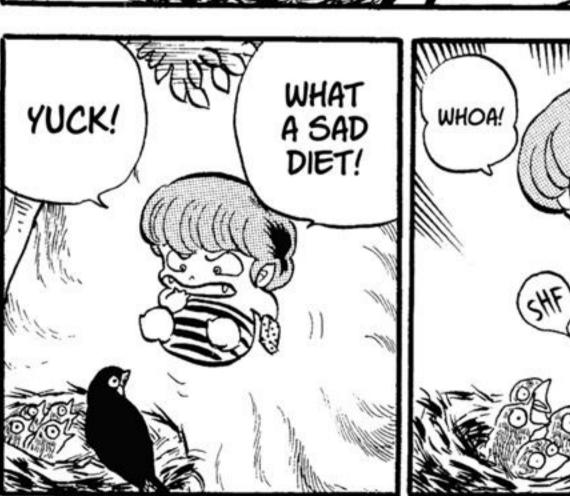


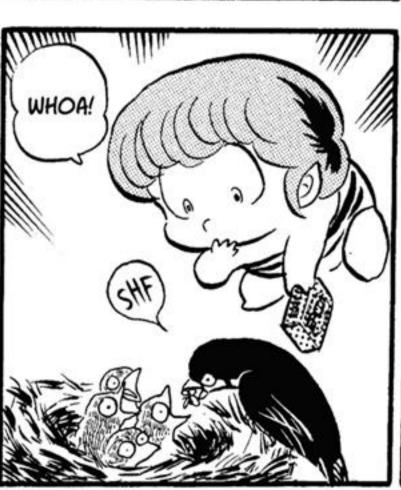




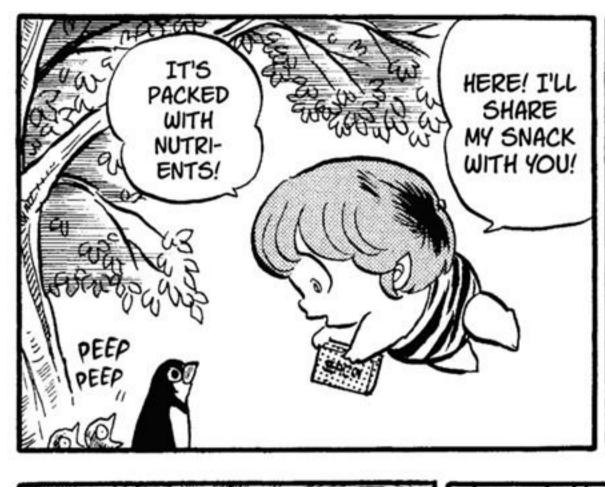












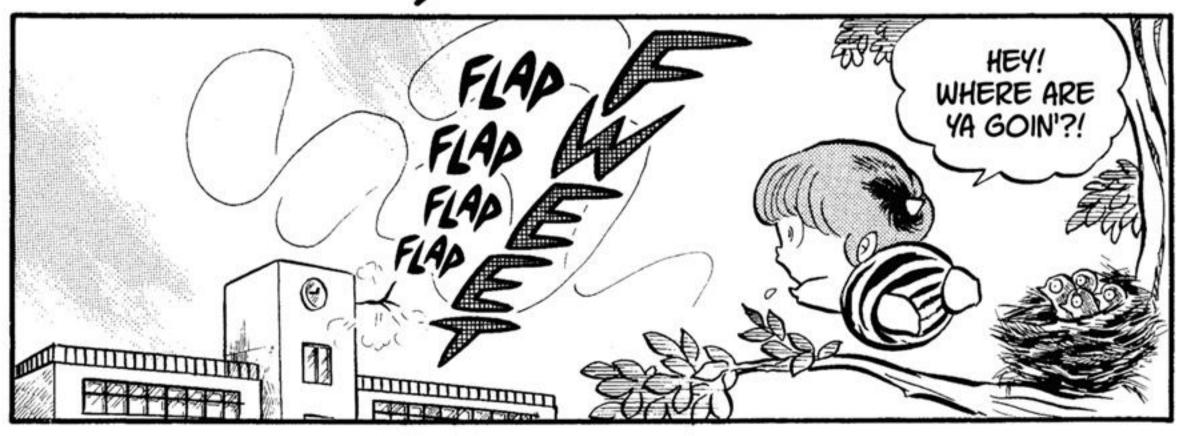


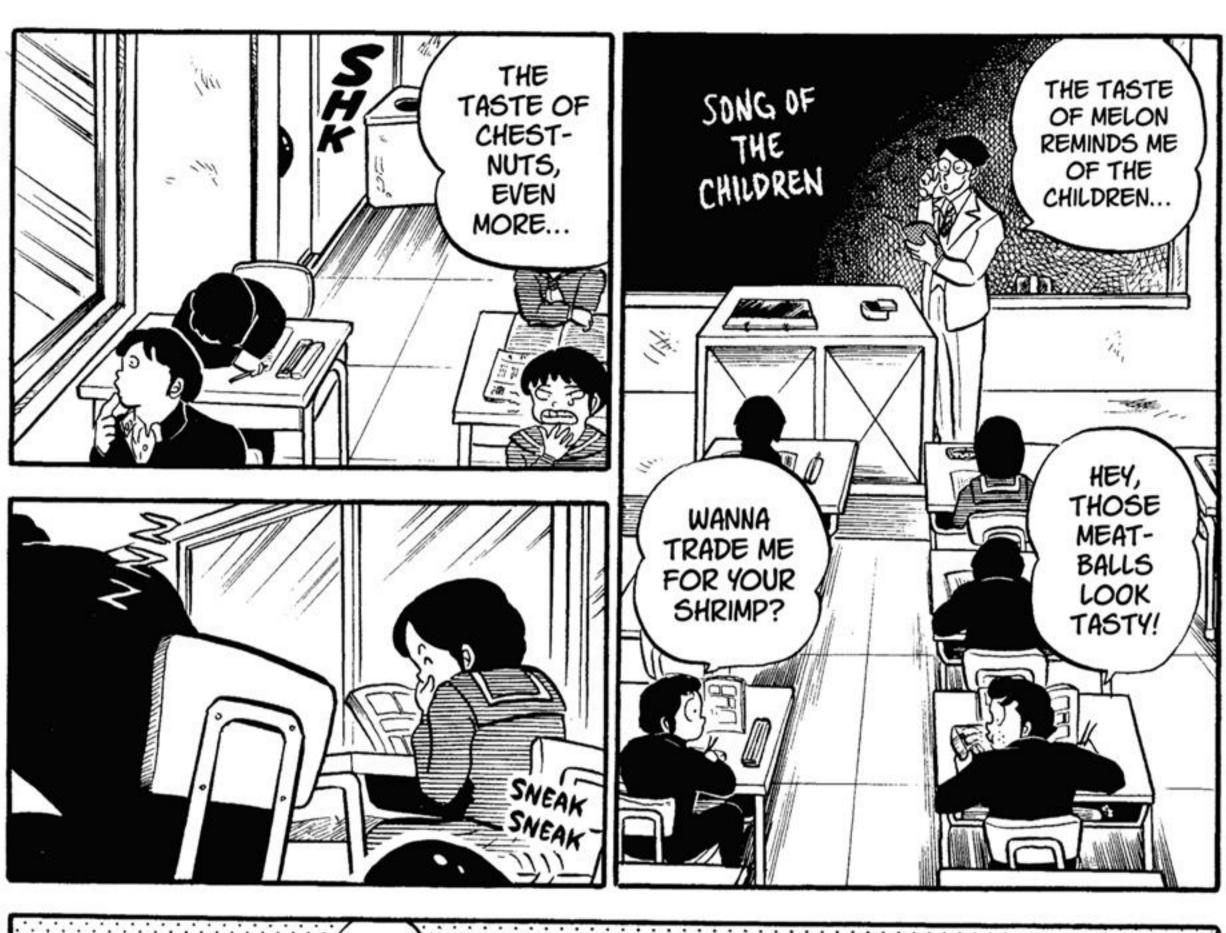


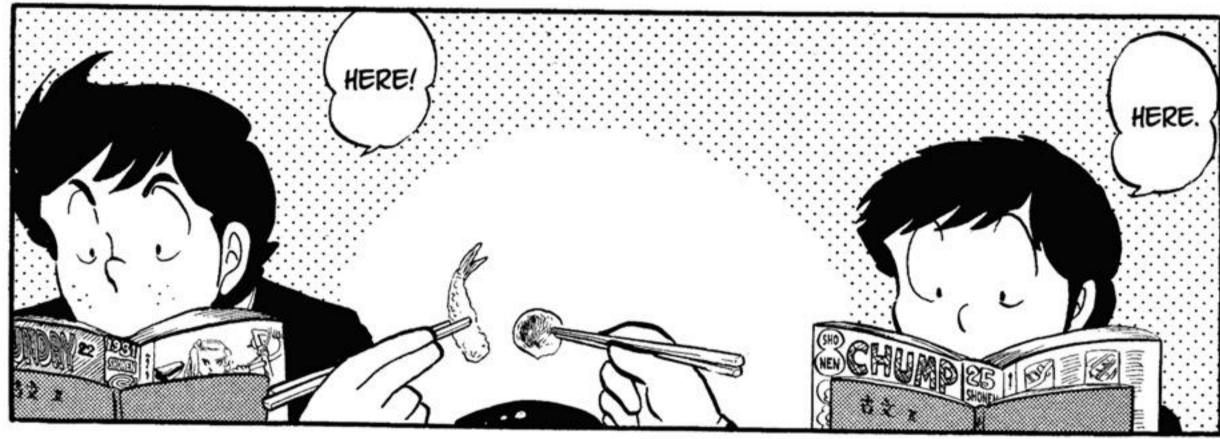


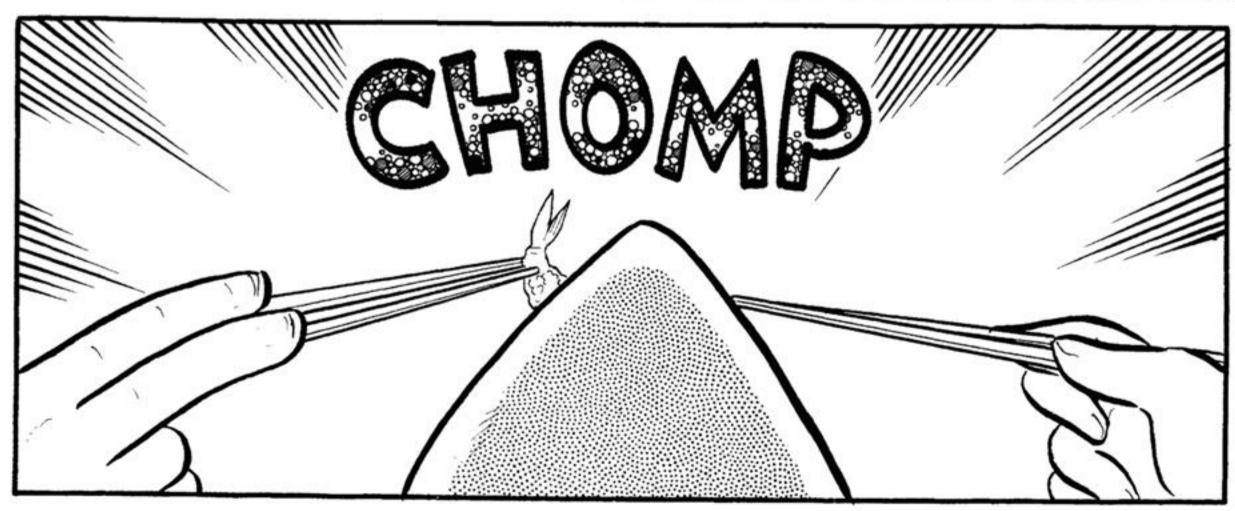


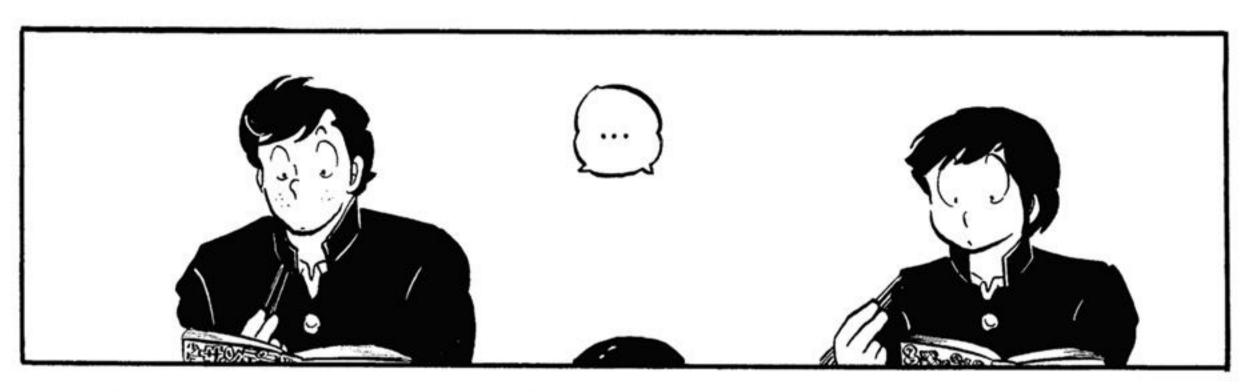




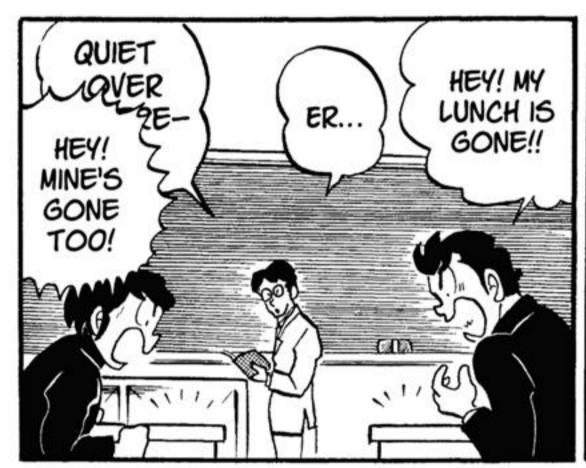










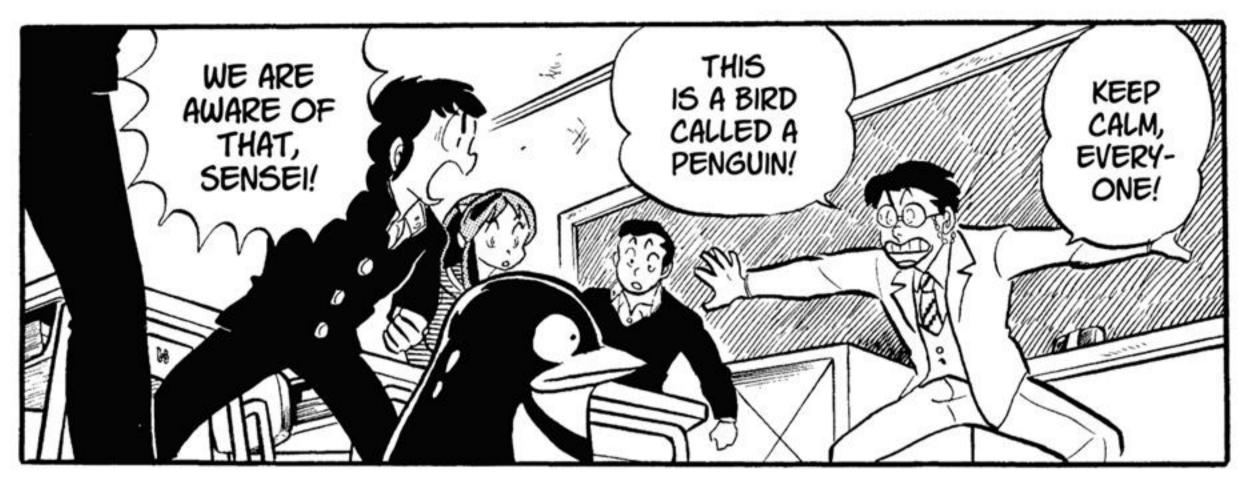




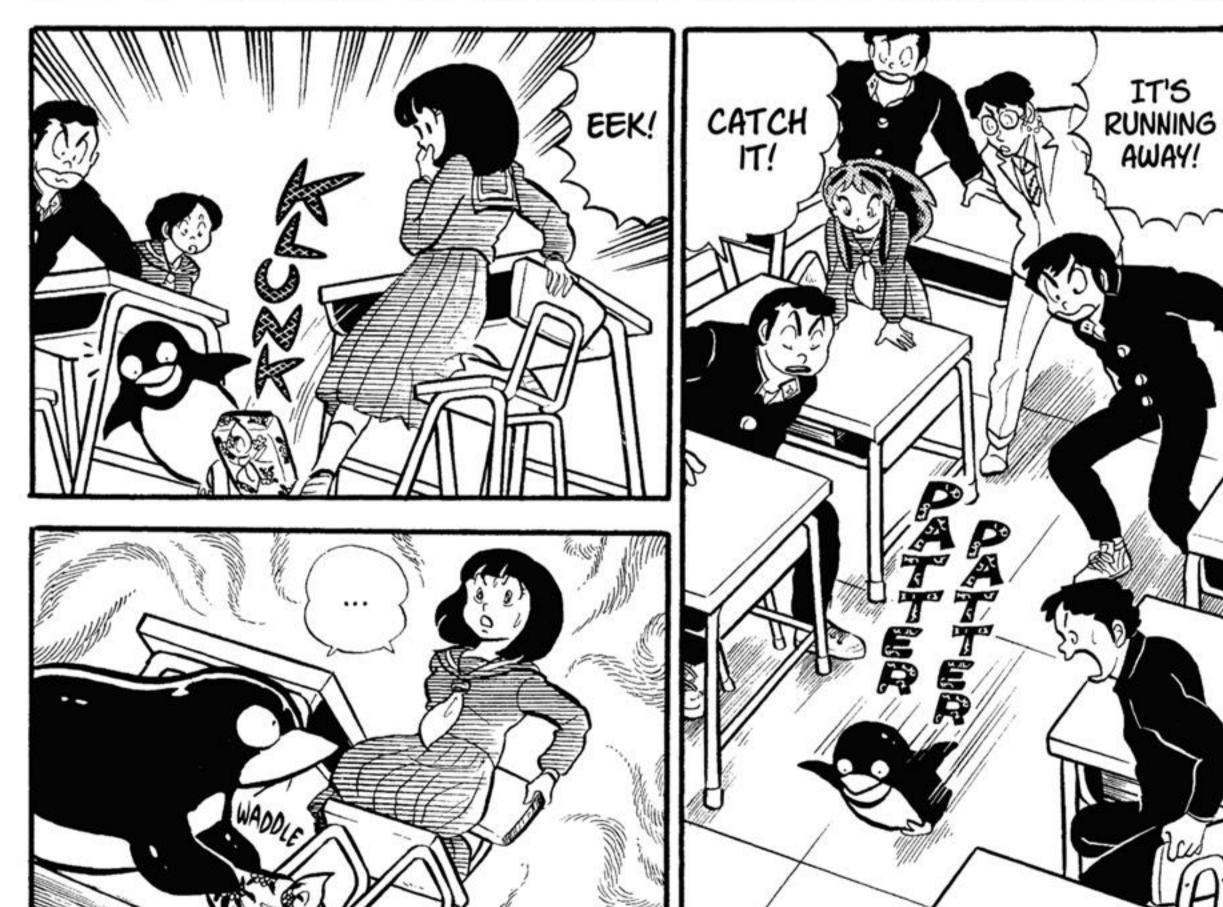








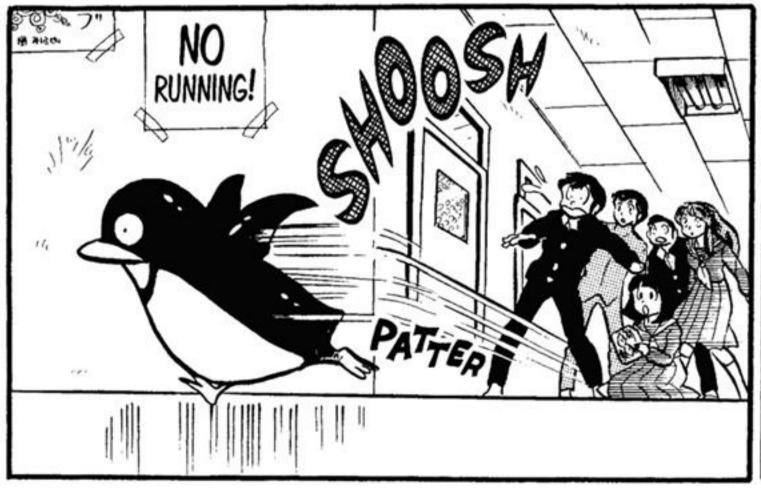








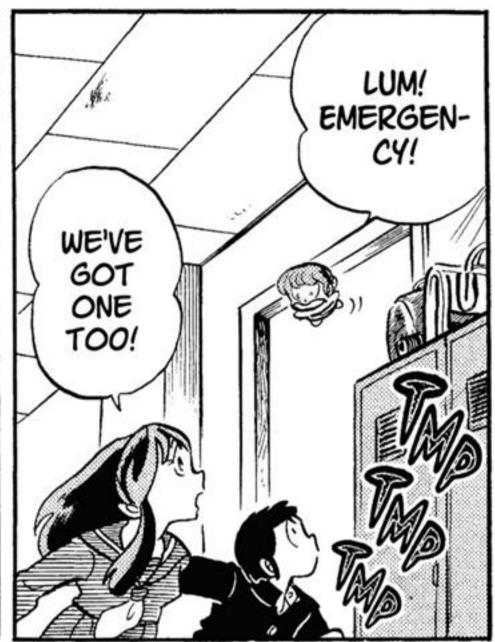




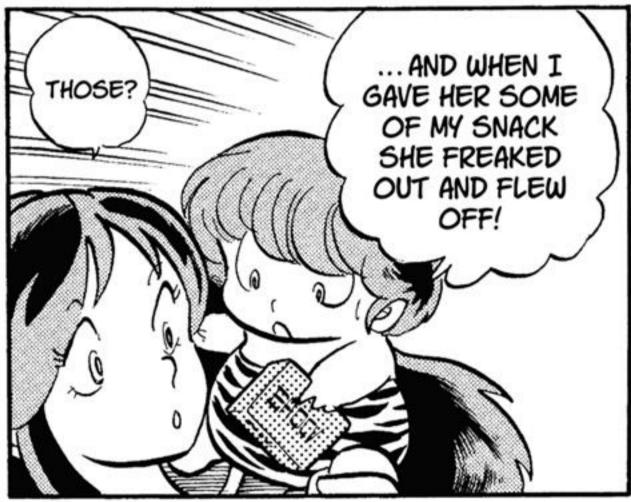








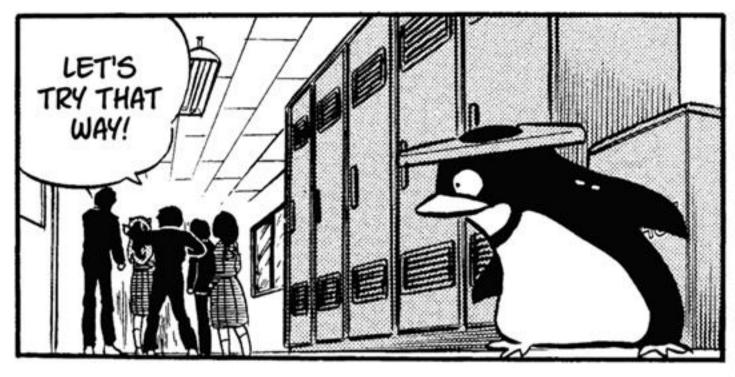






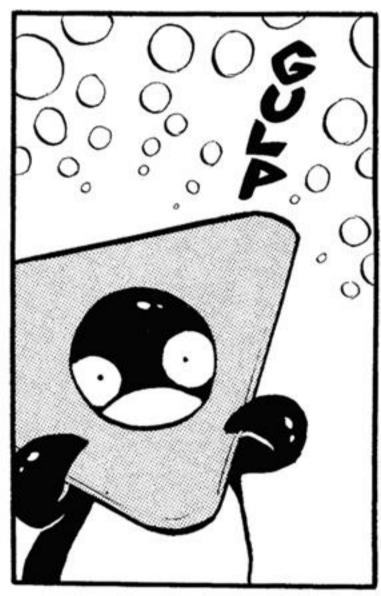












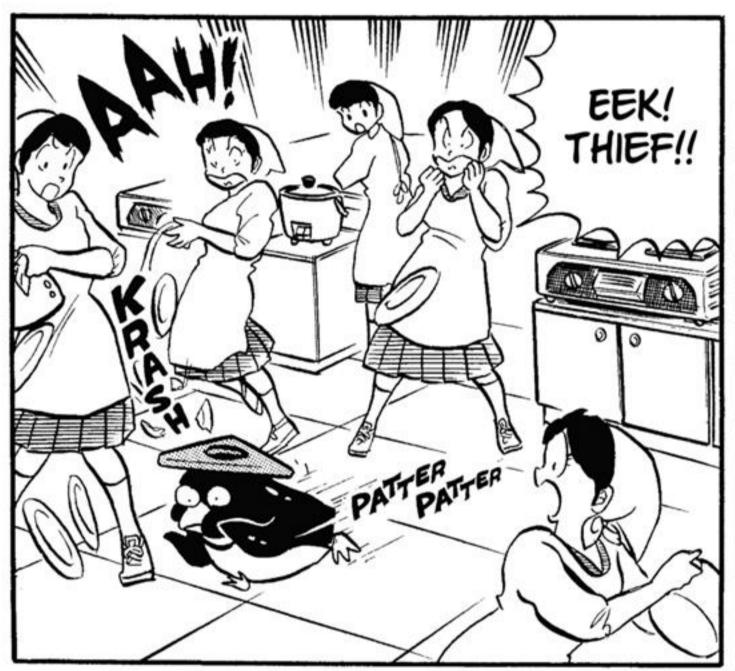










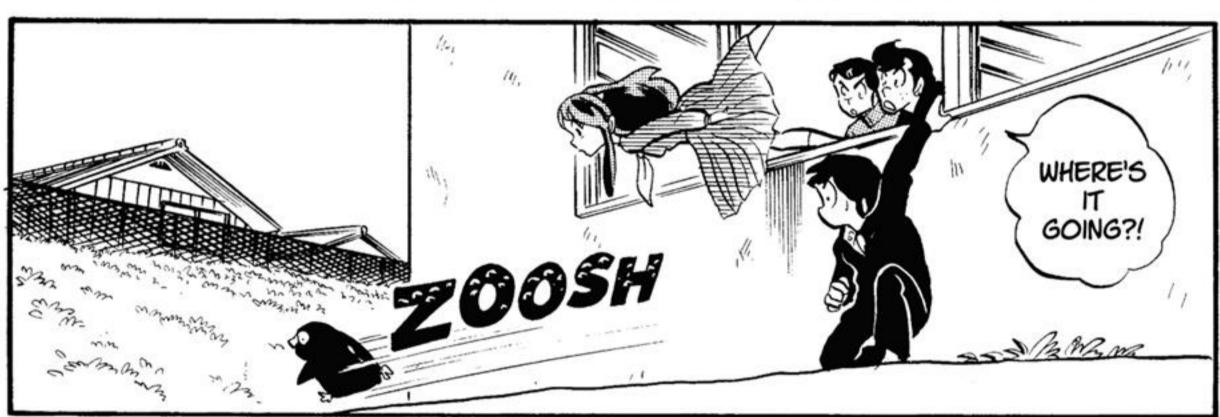








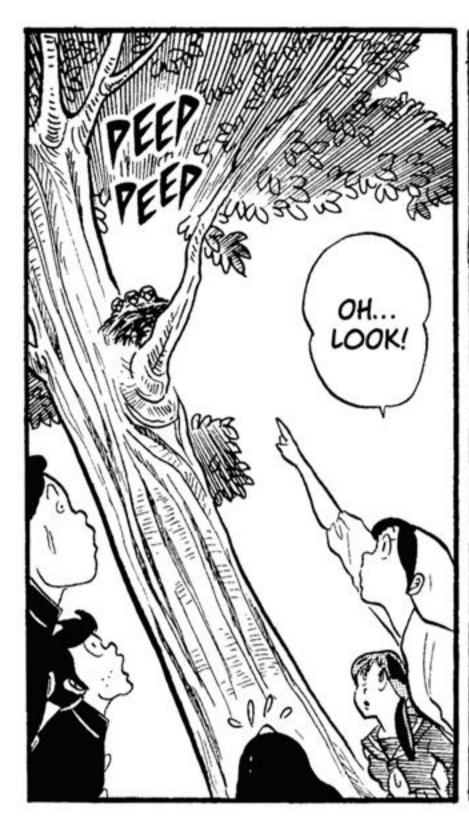




















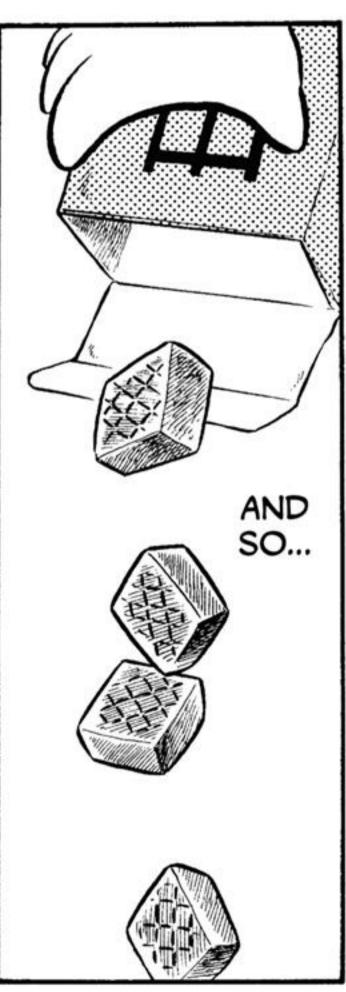












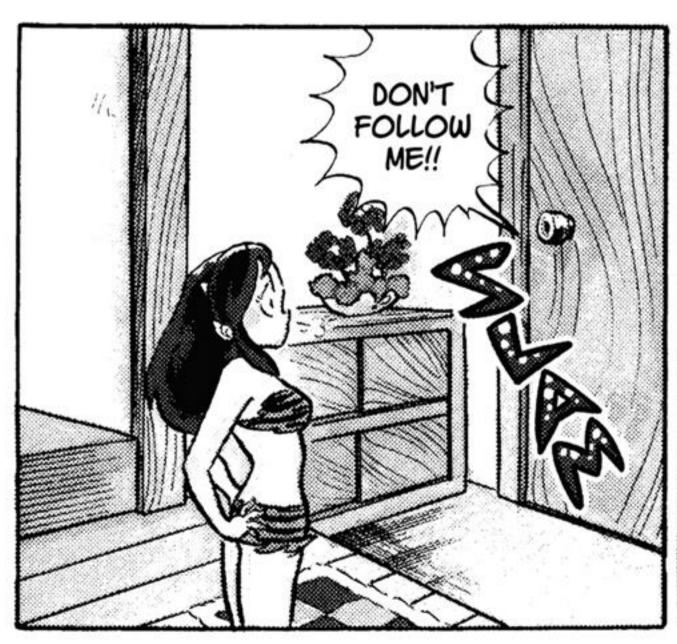
CHAPTER 3: A CENTURY BY AGE THREE



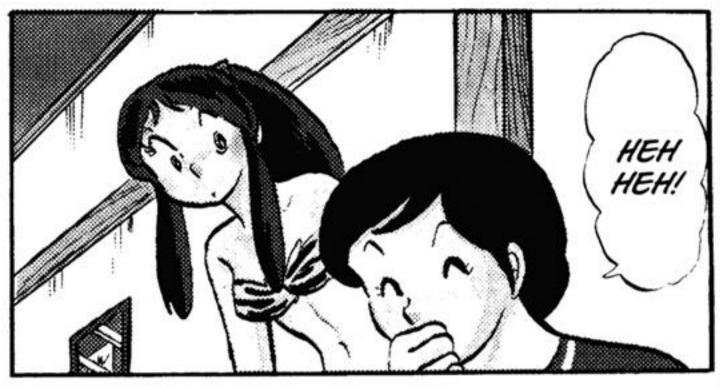




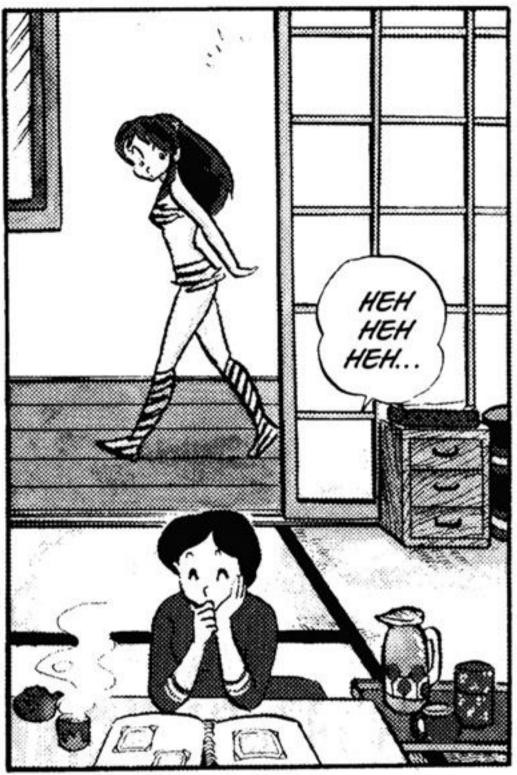


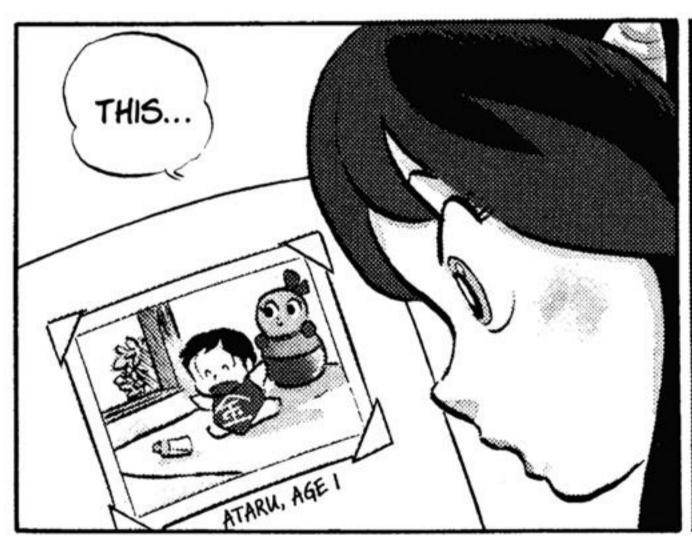






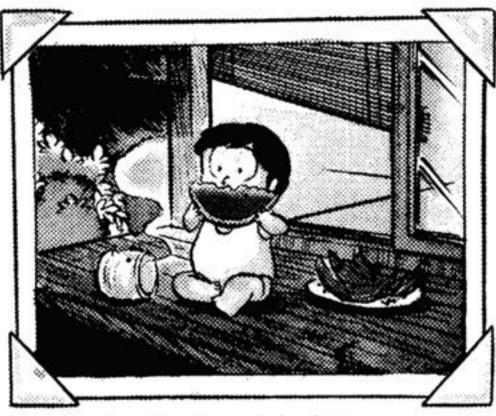




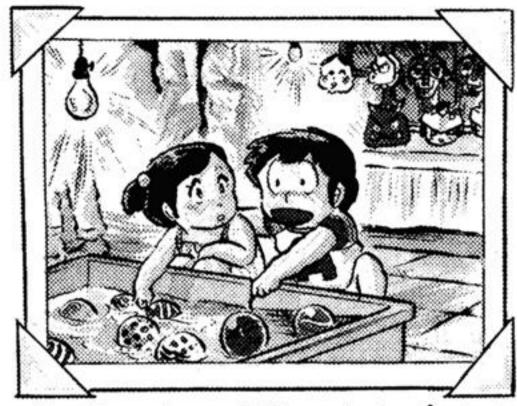




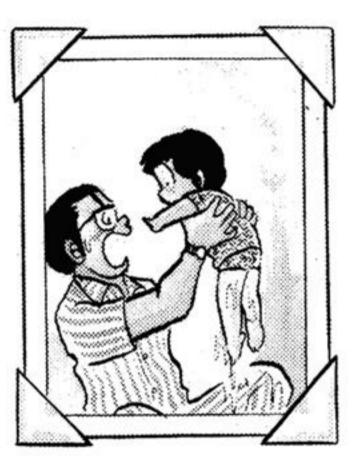




He ate the whole thing by himself!



▲ With a strange little girl at a festival



▲ Unforgettable



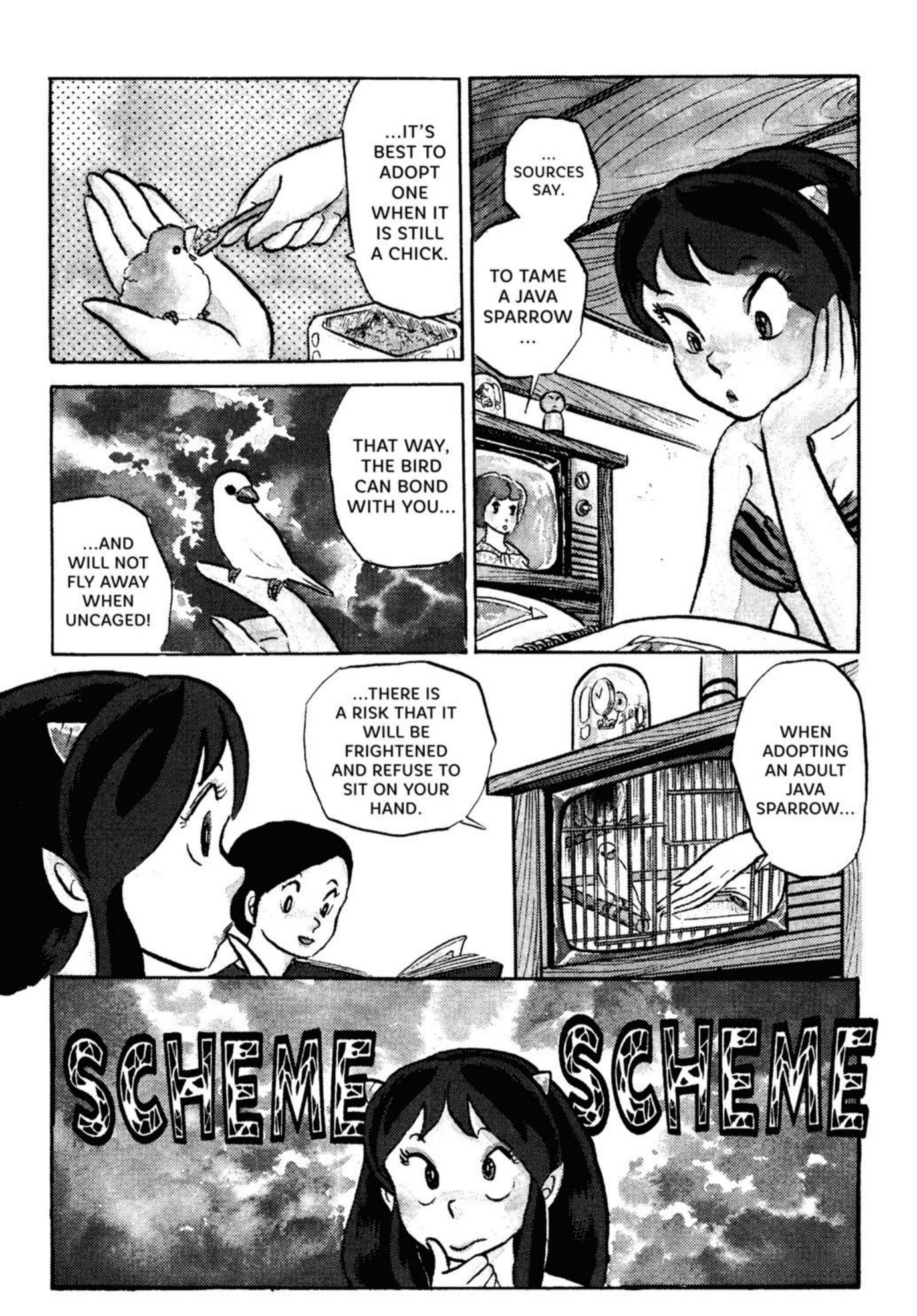
▲ Shichi-Go-San was an embarrassment!



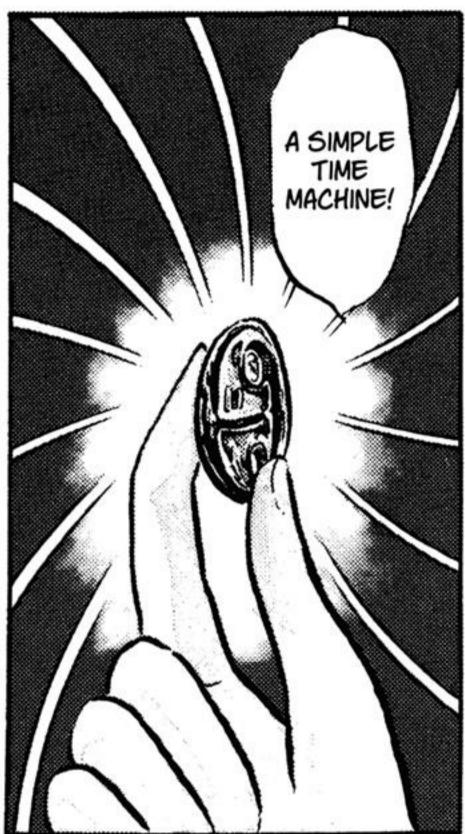
■ Wish I could be so carefree!



A Right before he peed in the pool



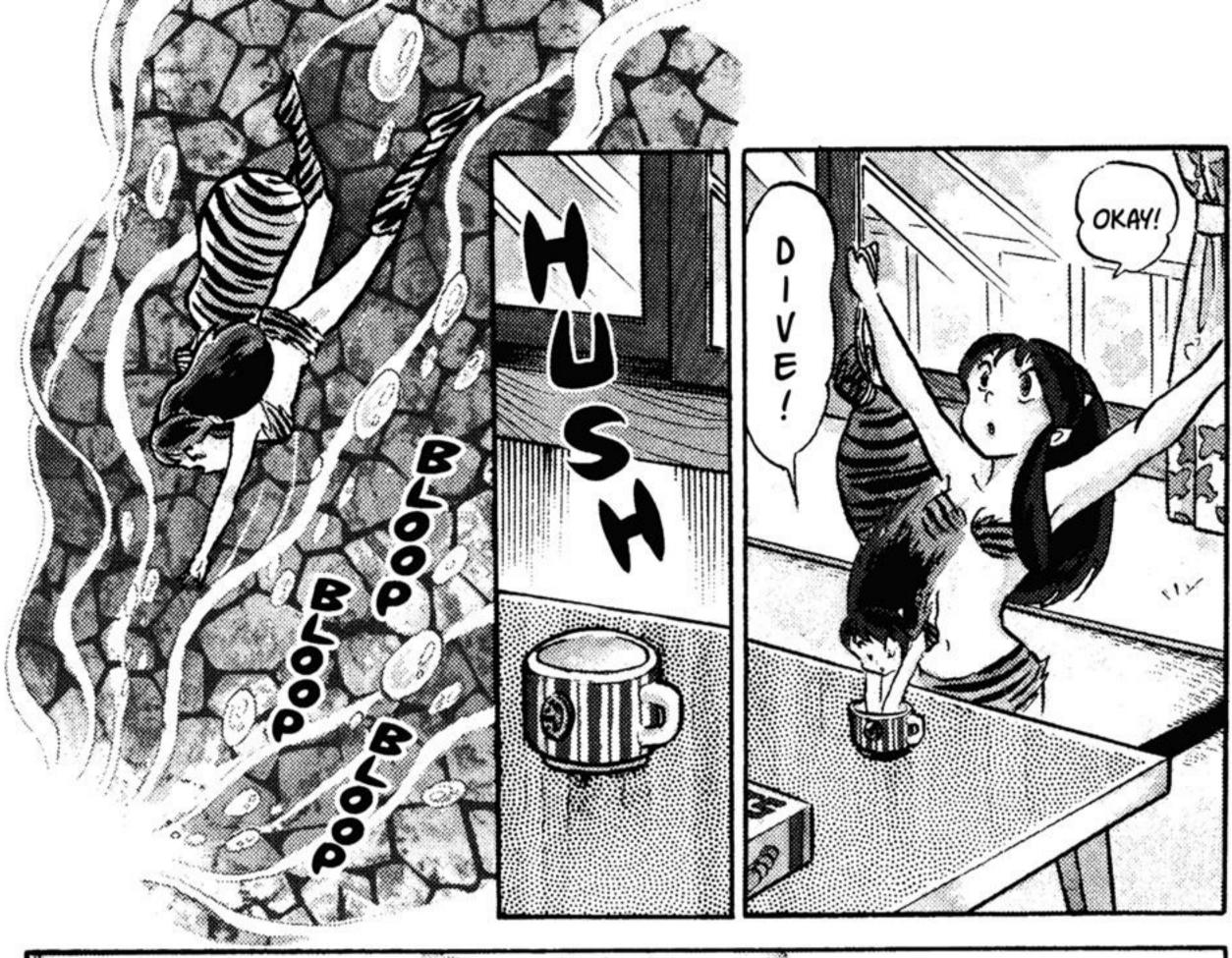


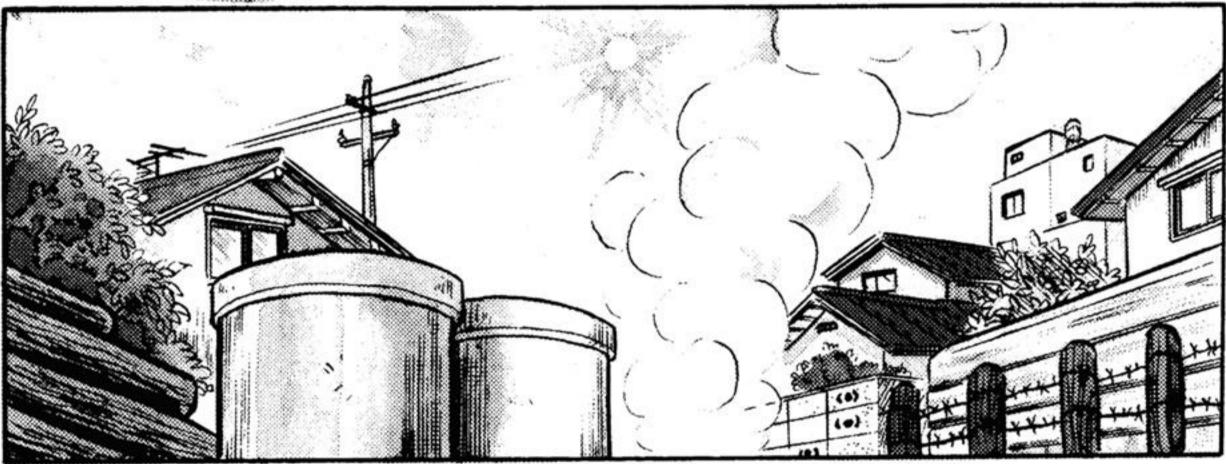


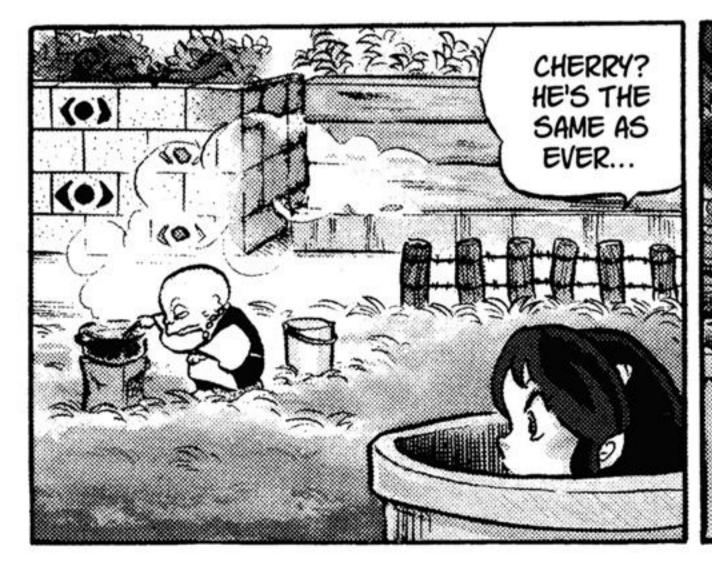








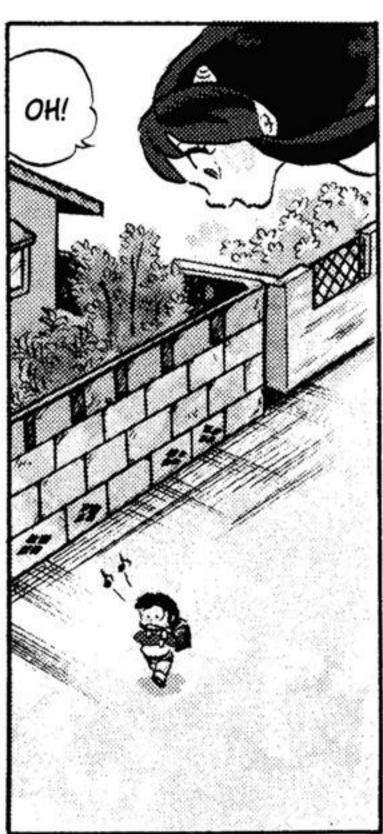


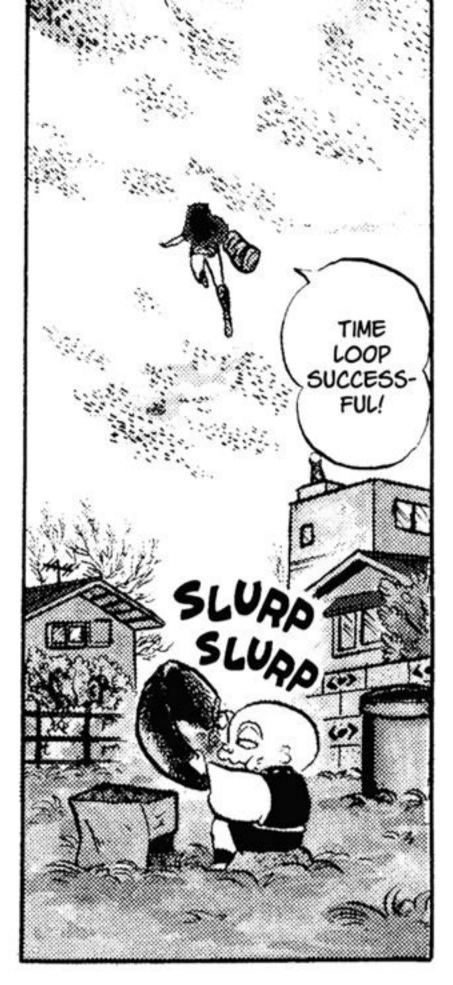




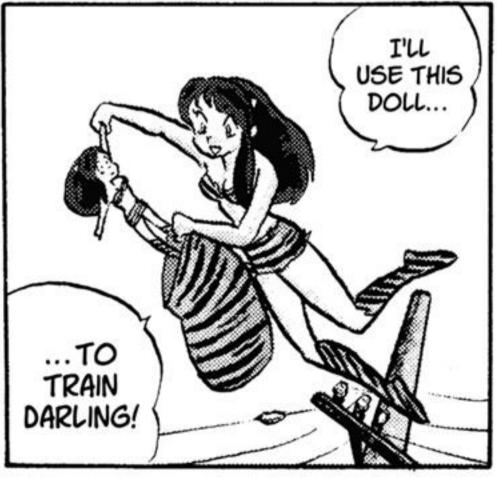








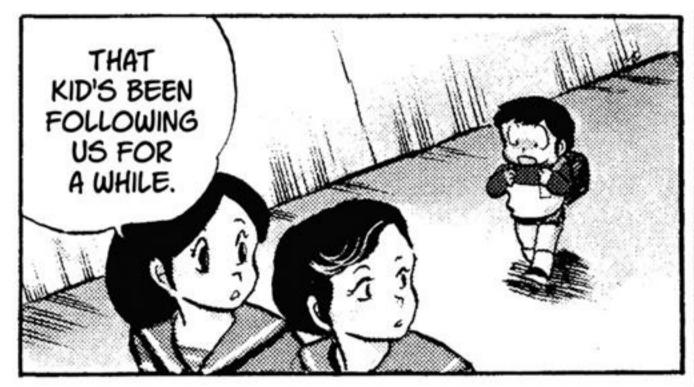


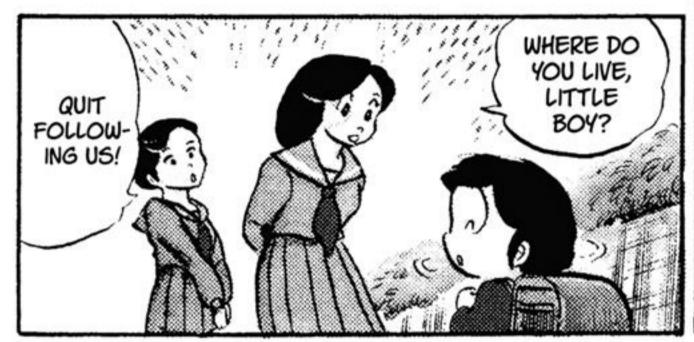




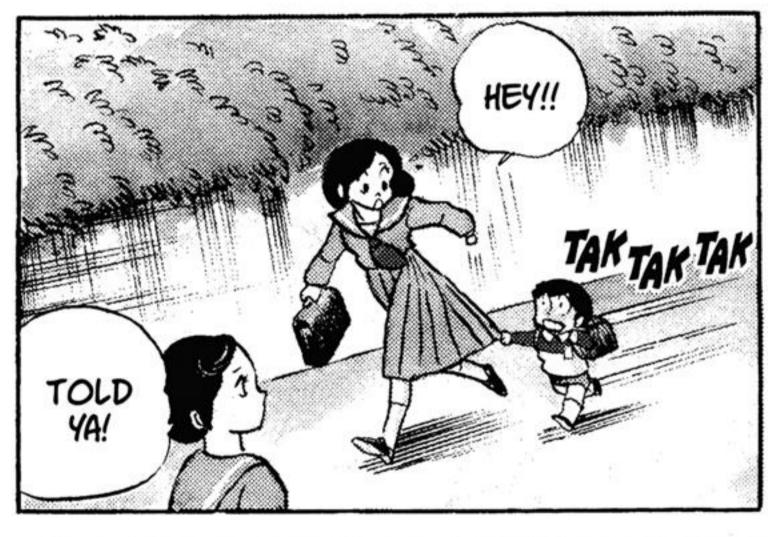


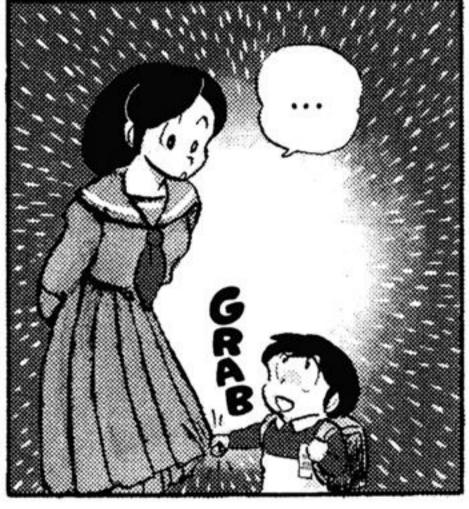




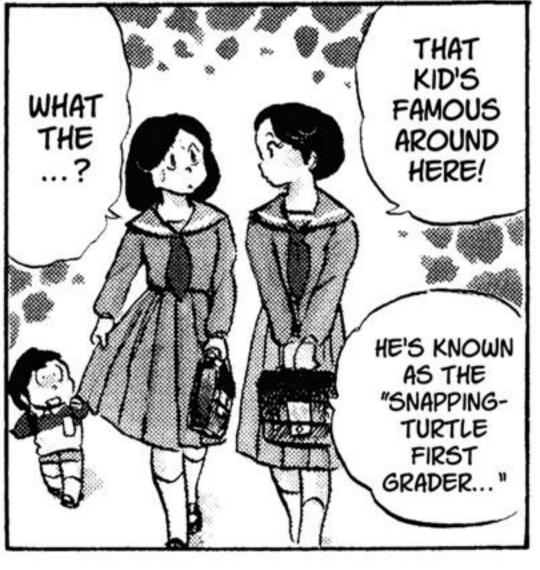








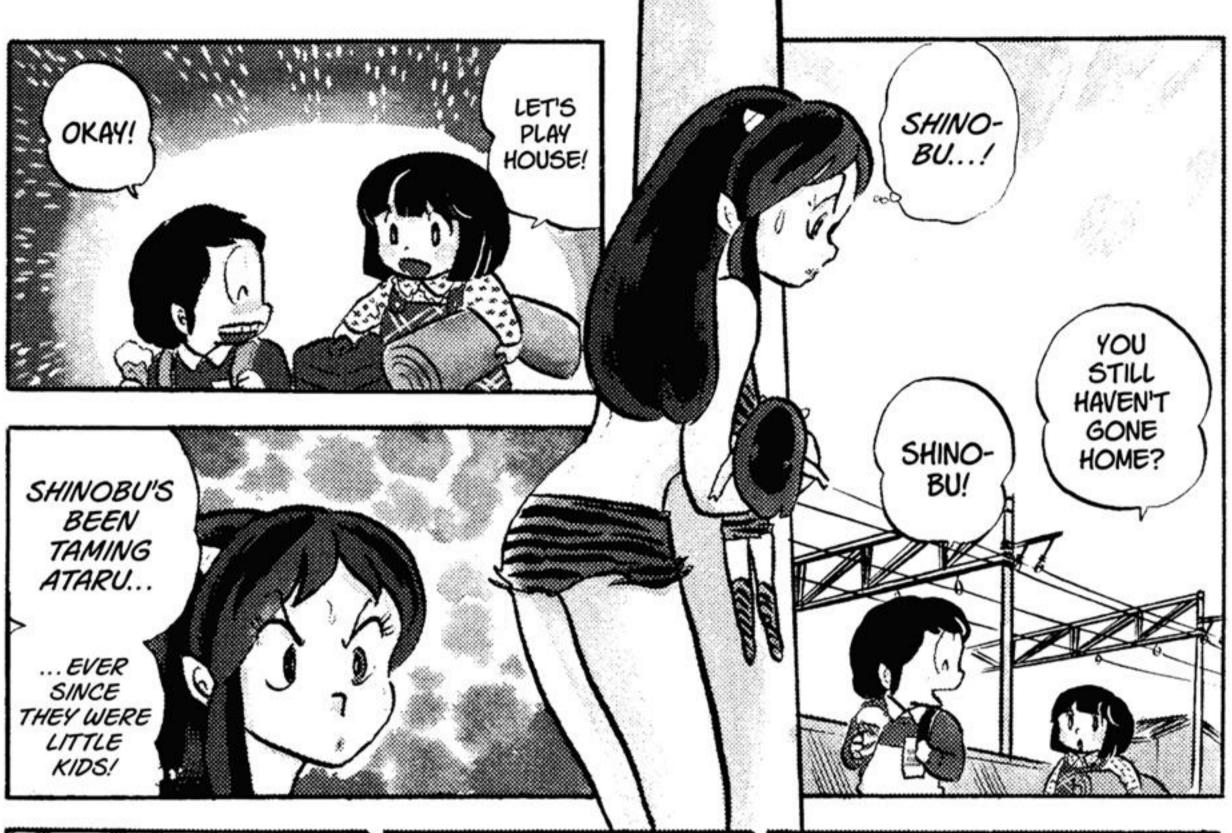












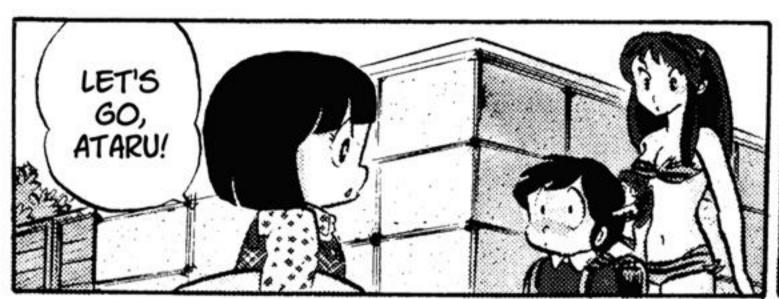












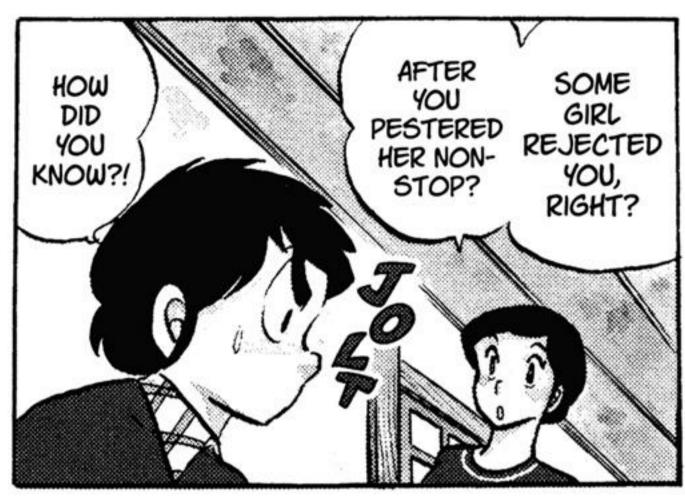








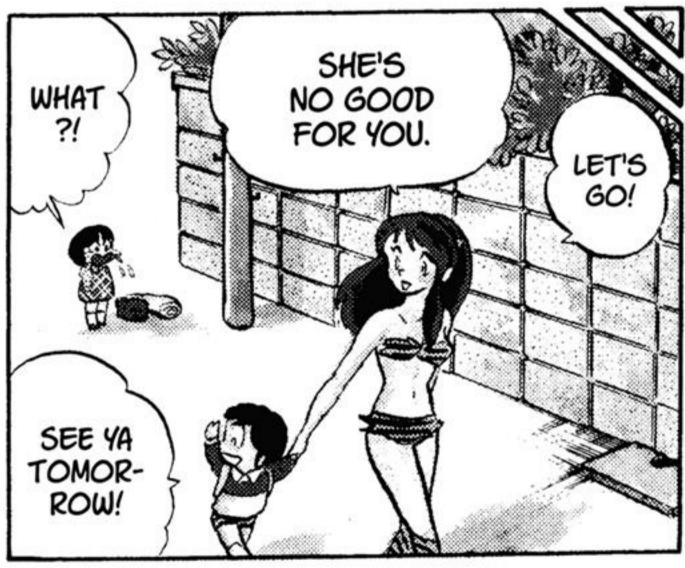




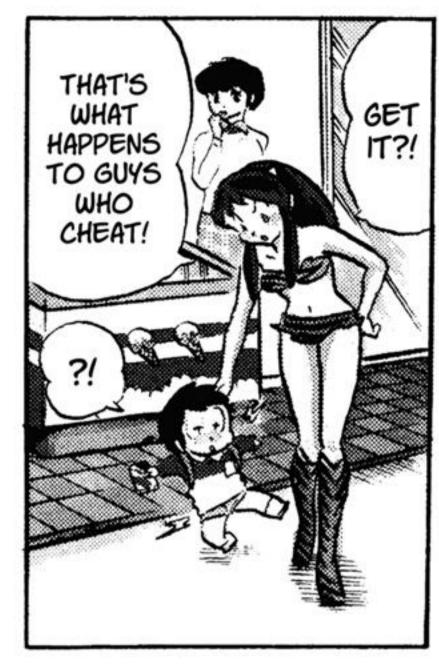








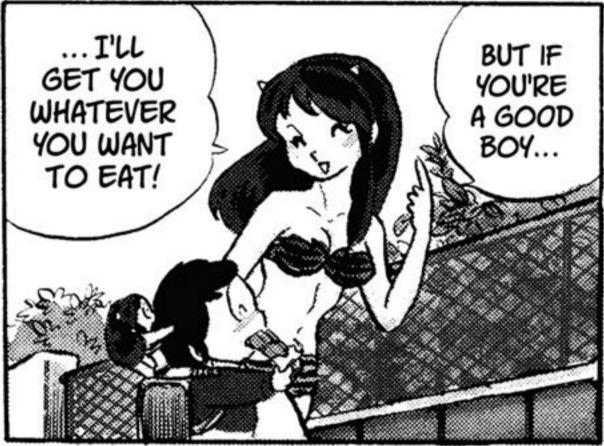


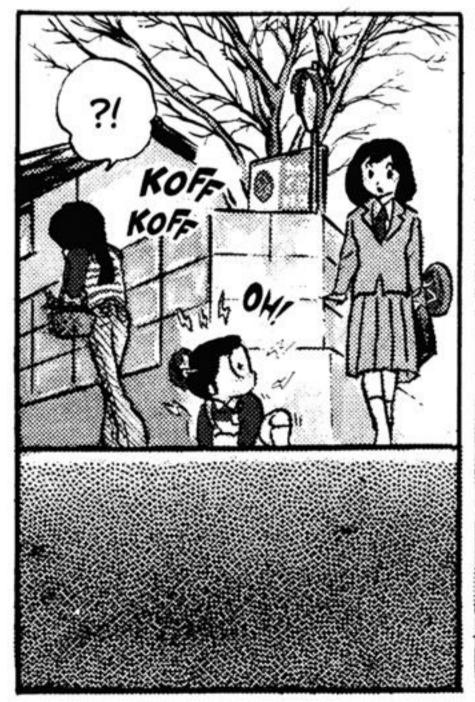










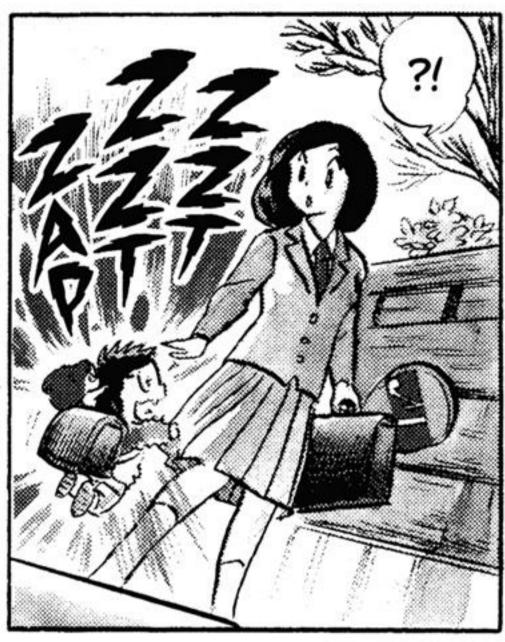




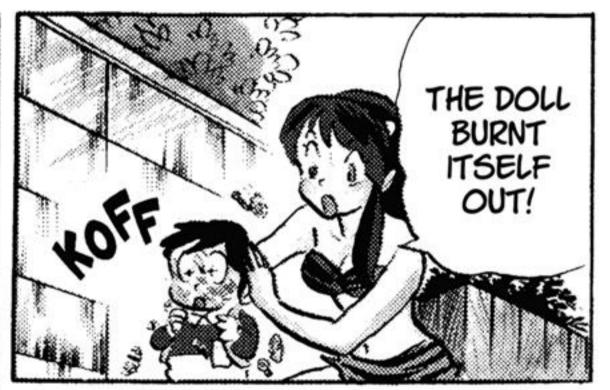












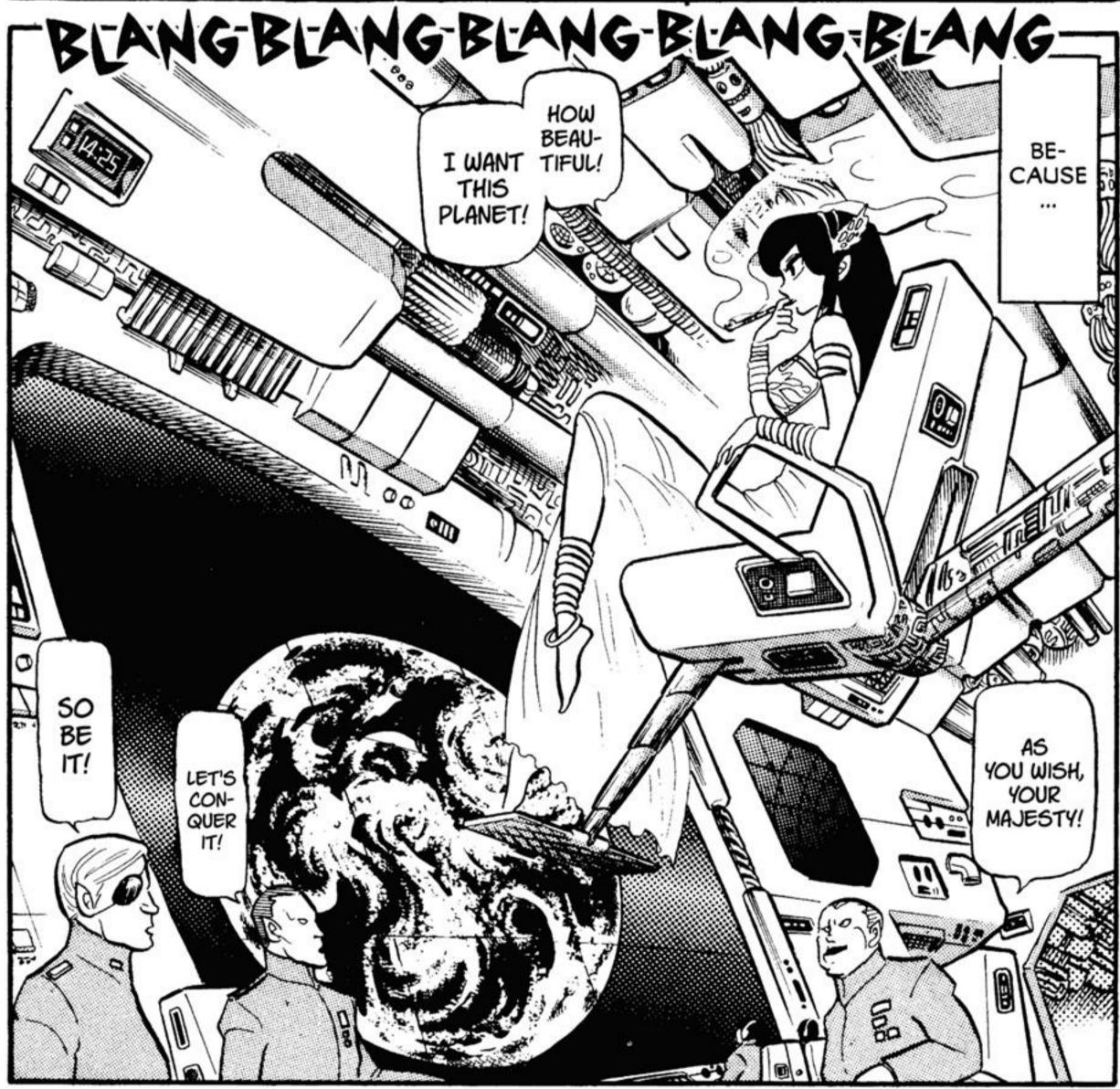




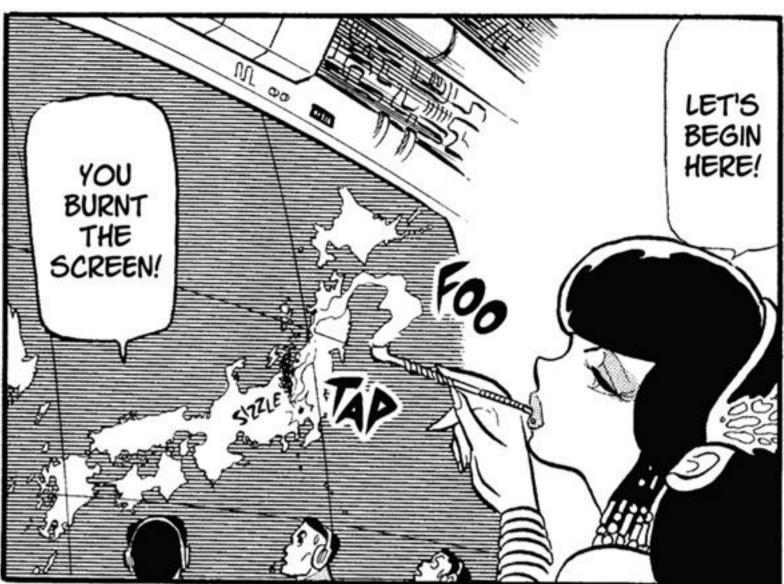
CHAPTER 4: HER MAJESTY AND THE AMOROUS RUGBY PLAYER



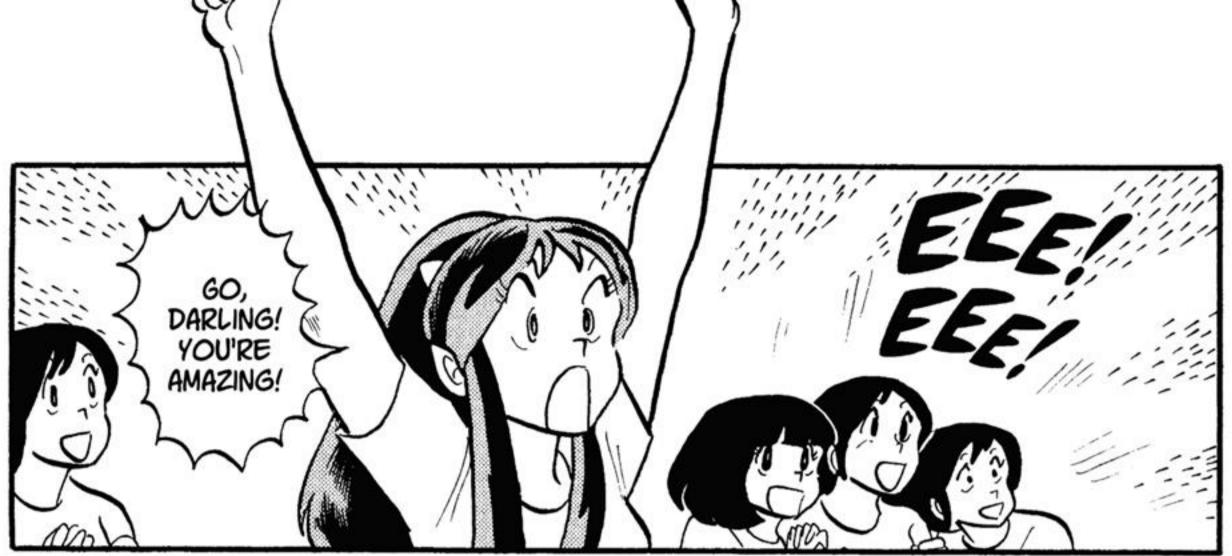








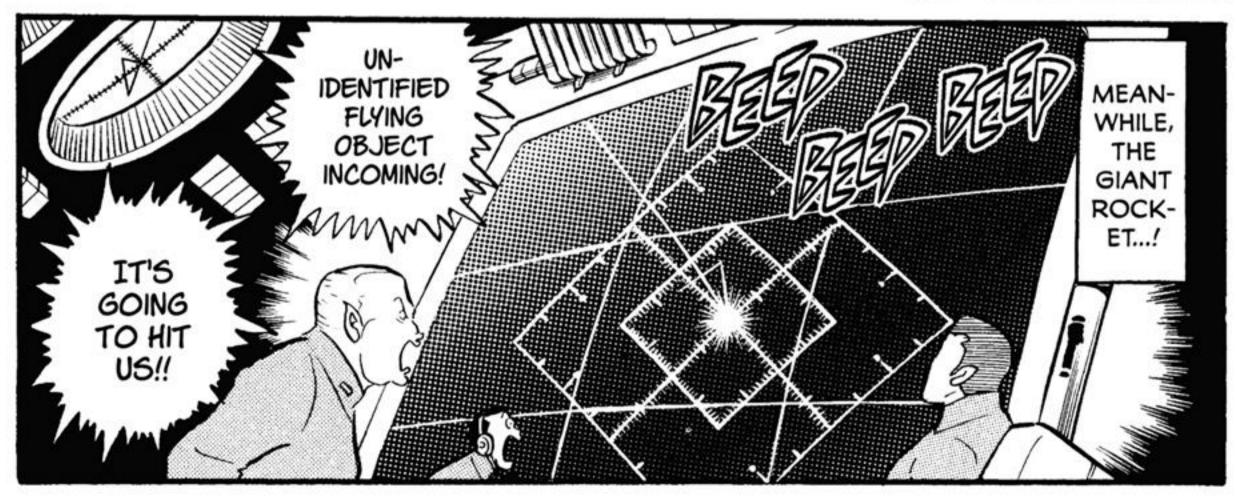


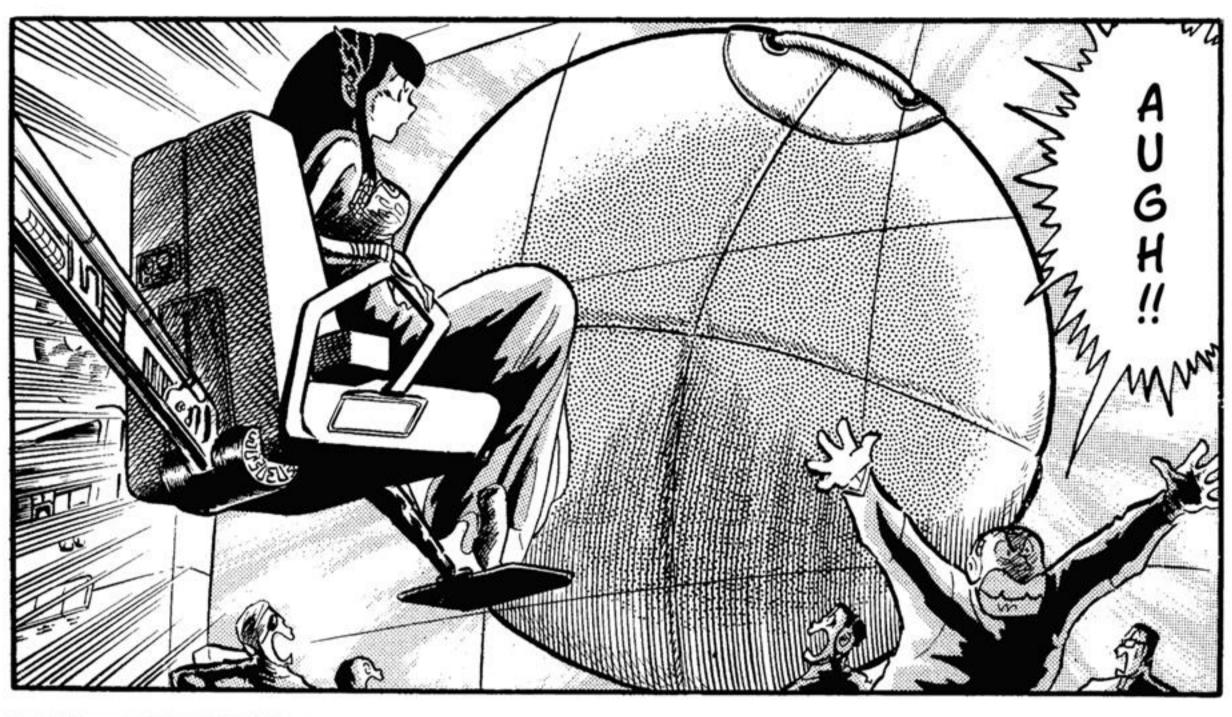


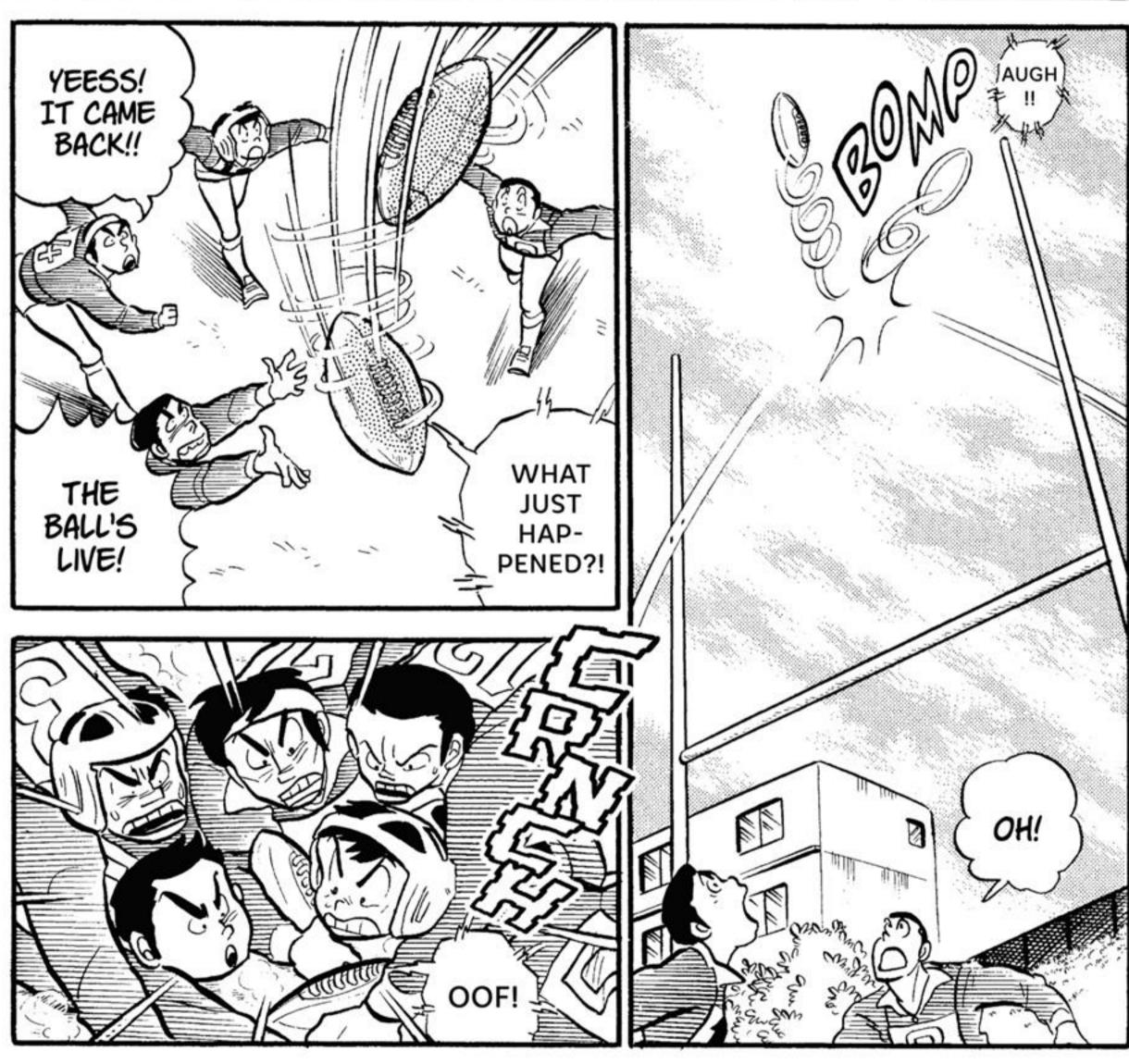


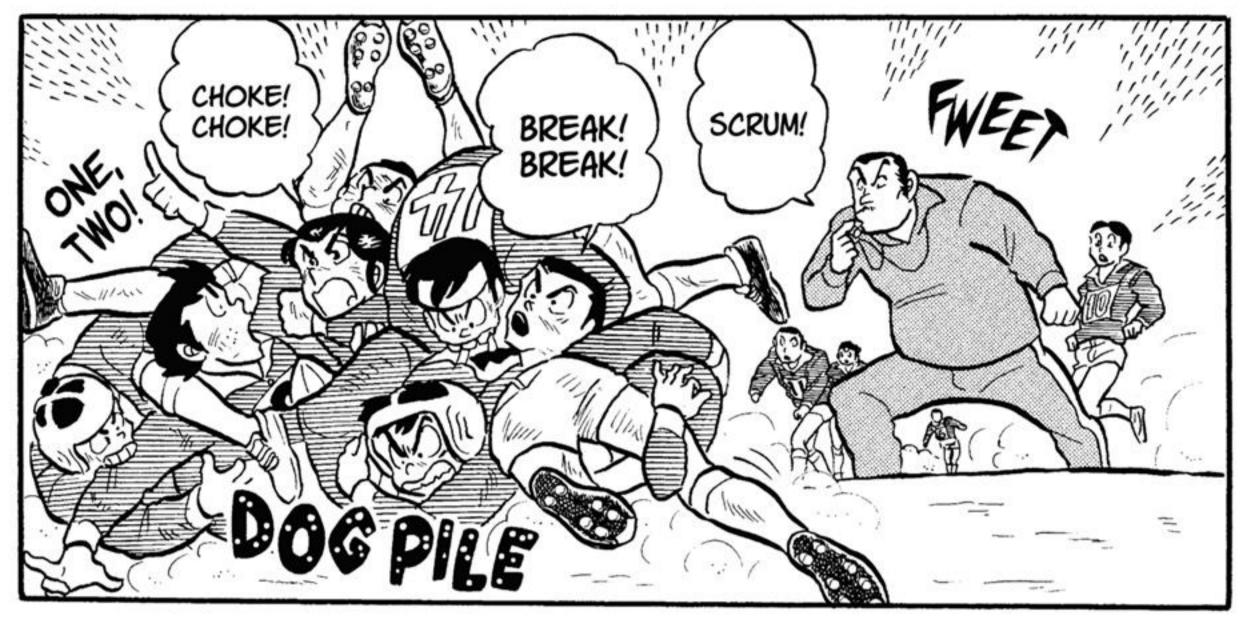








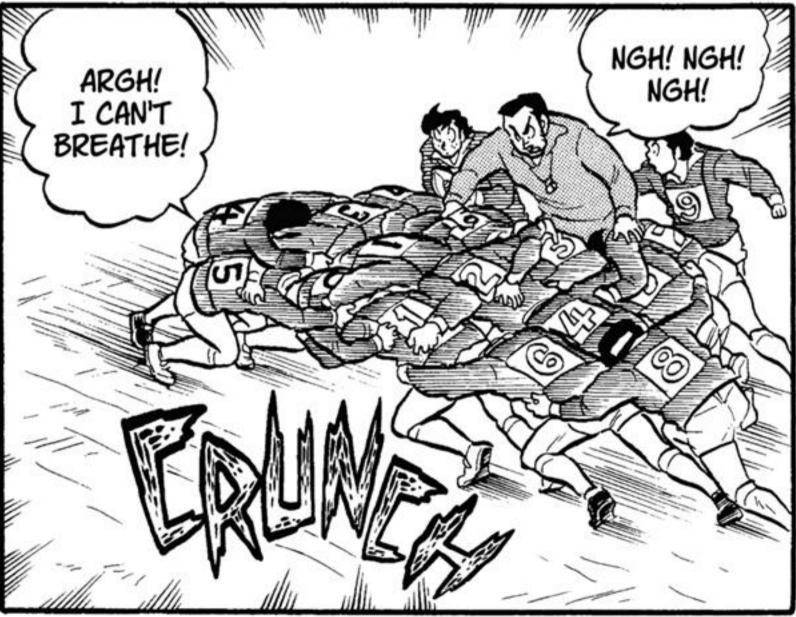














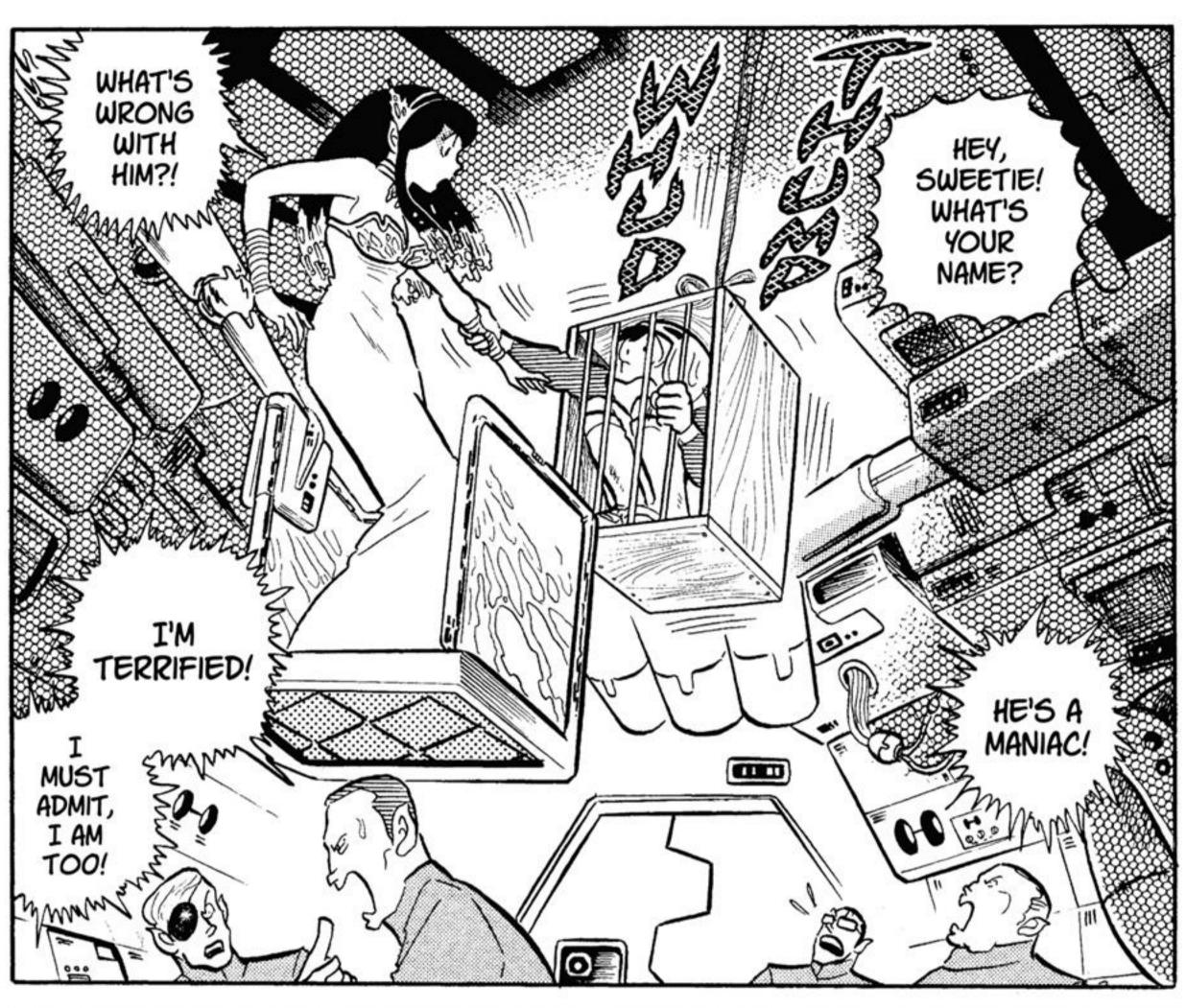


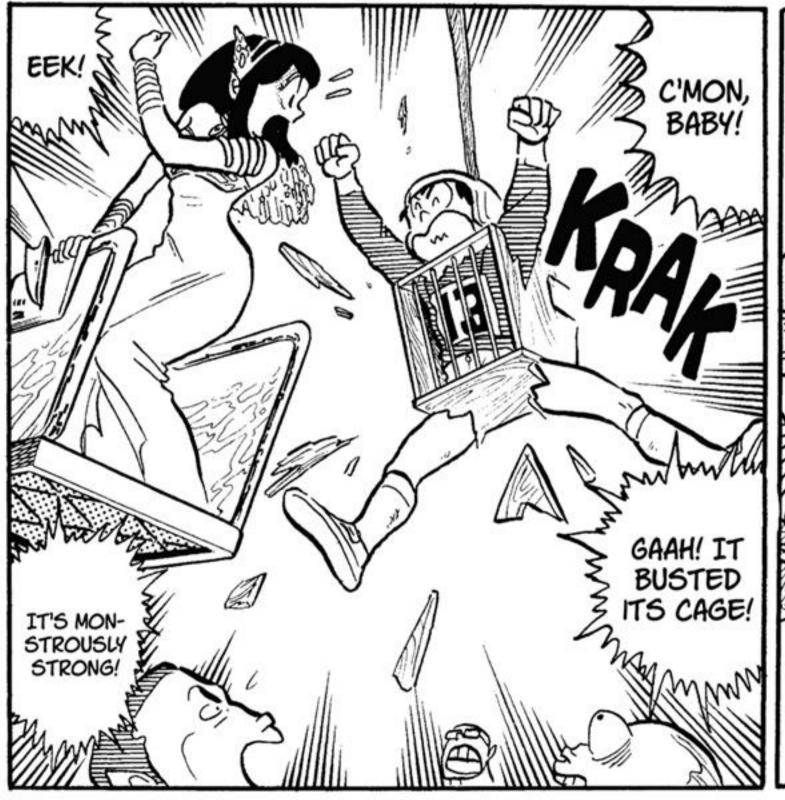


WANNA GO ON A DATE SOME-TIME?



MY NAME IS ATARU MORO-BOSHI!

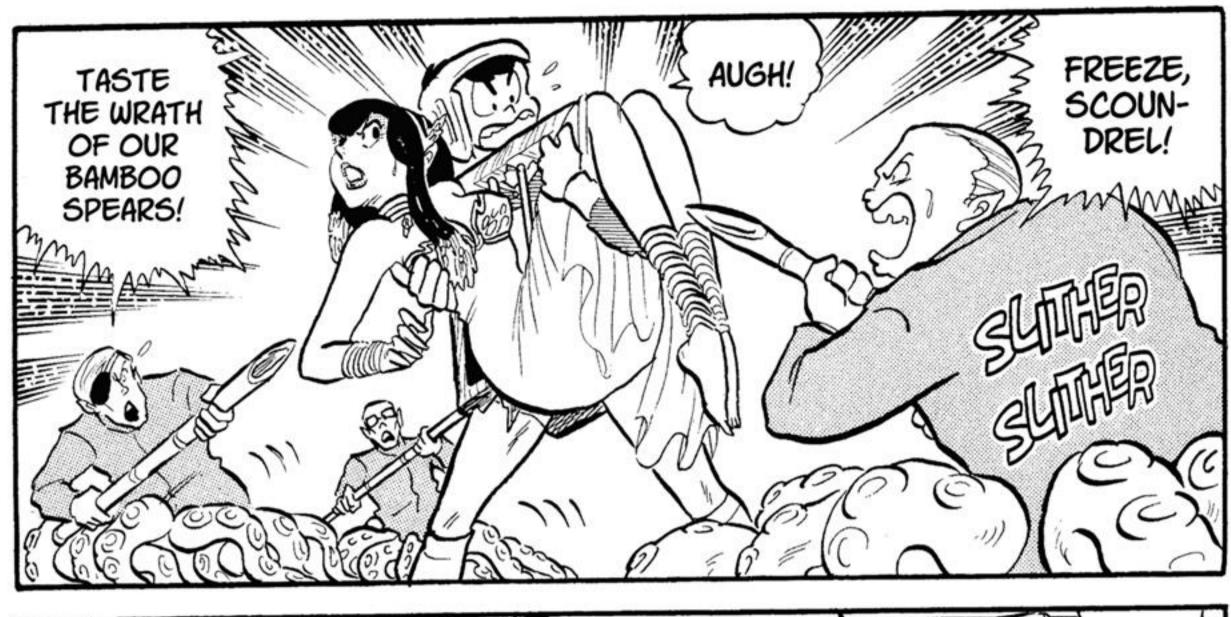




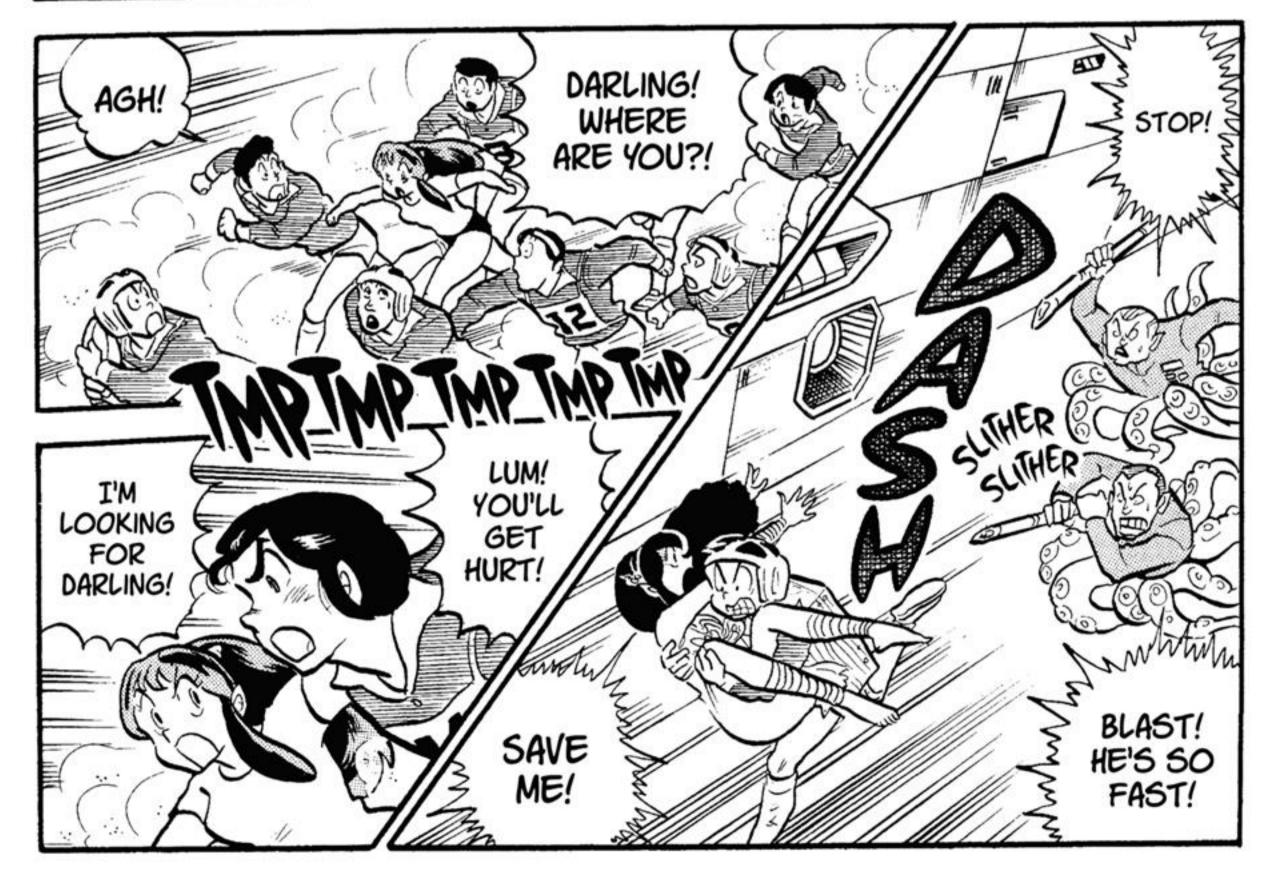


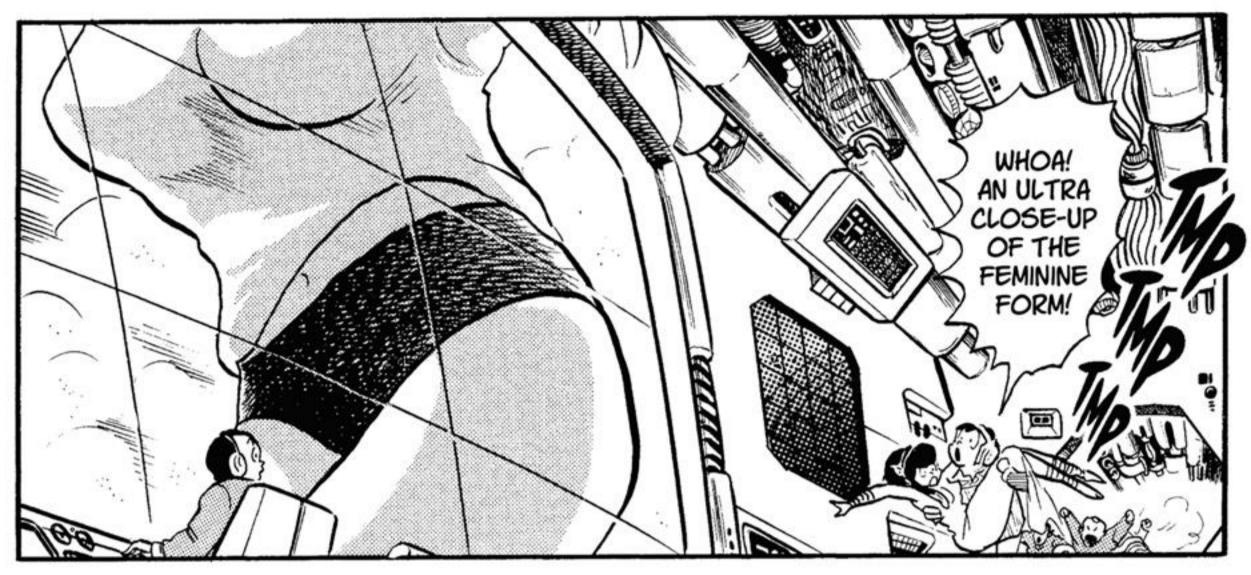


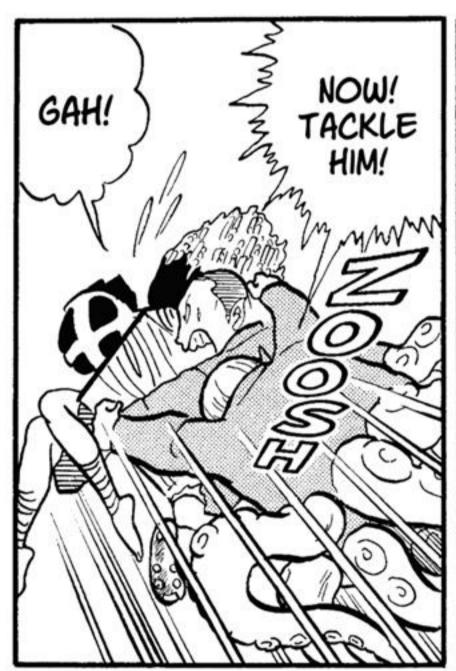




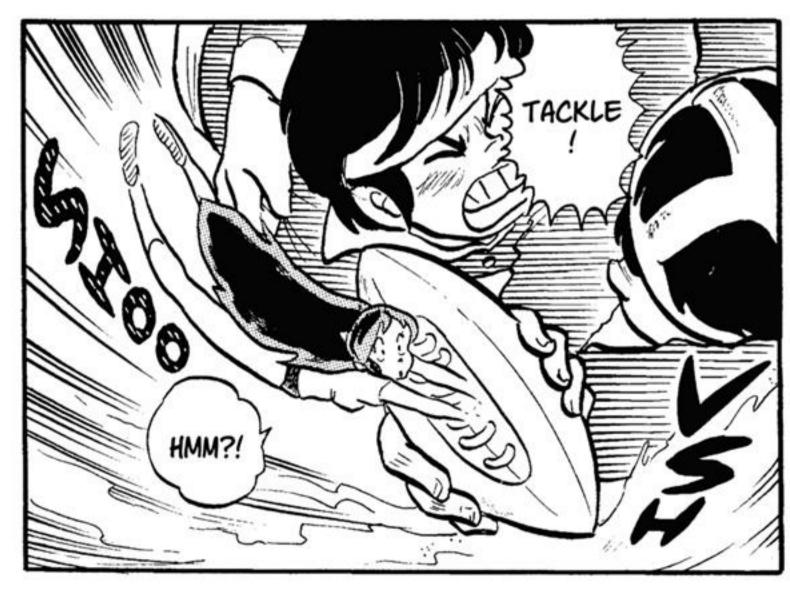








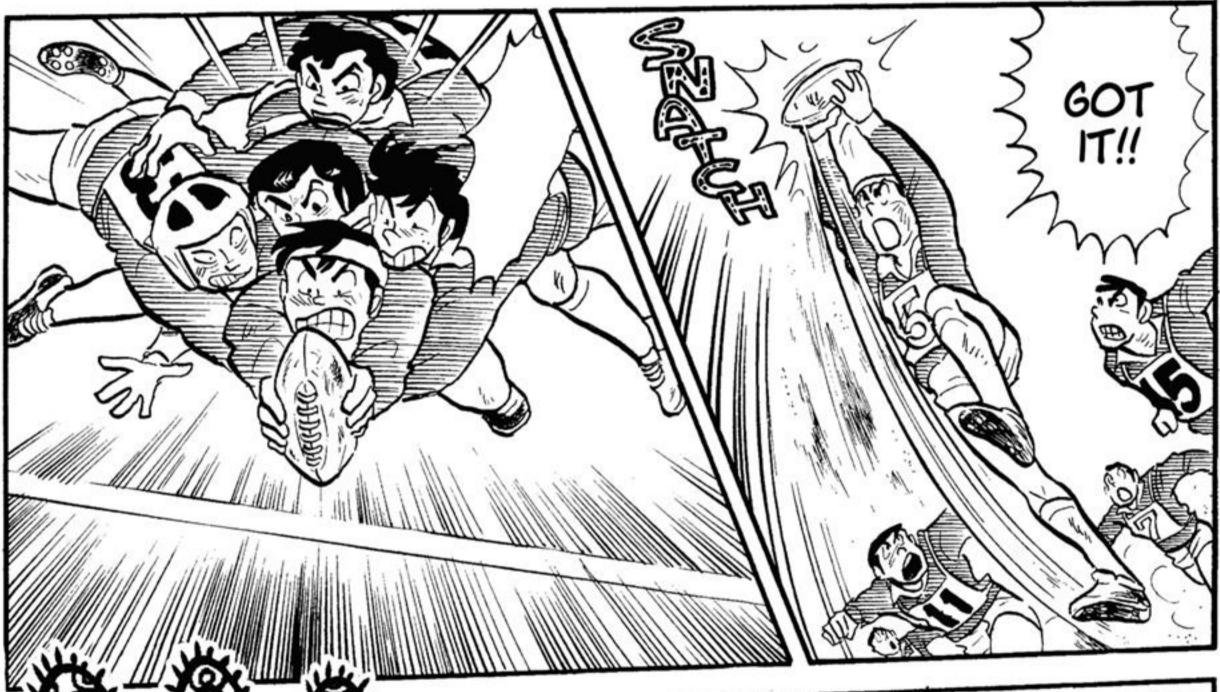


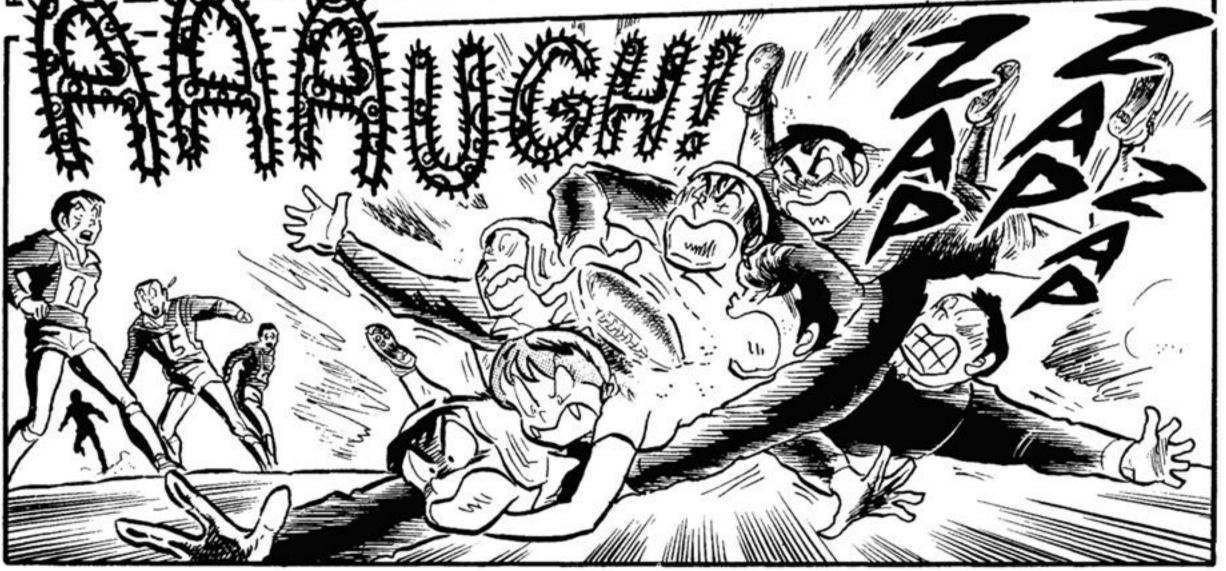


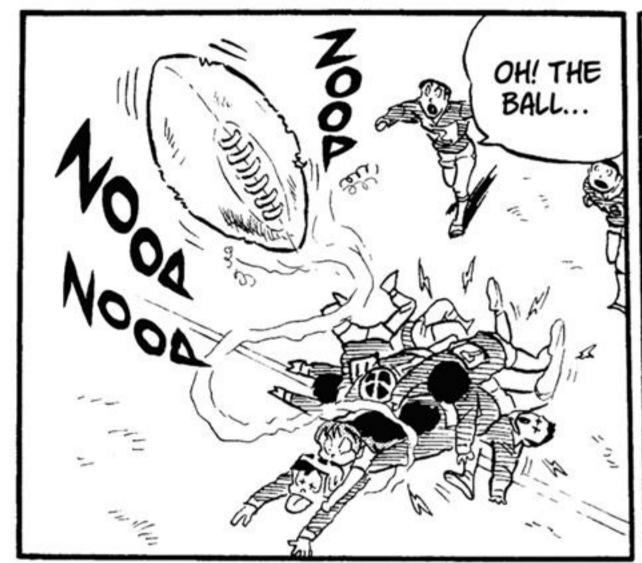


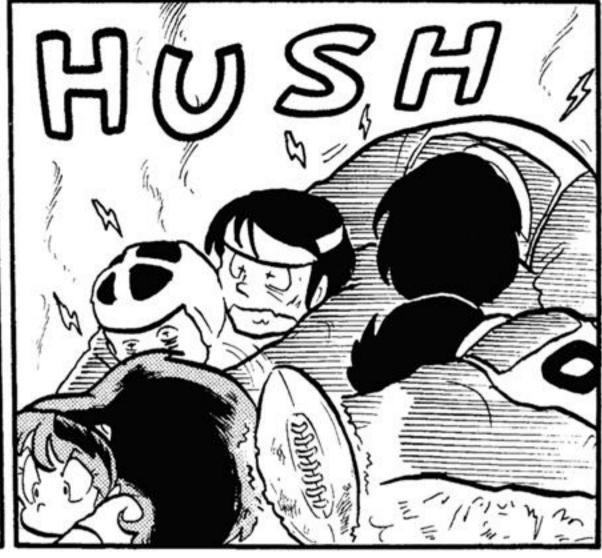




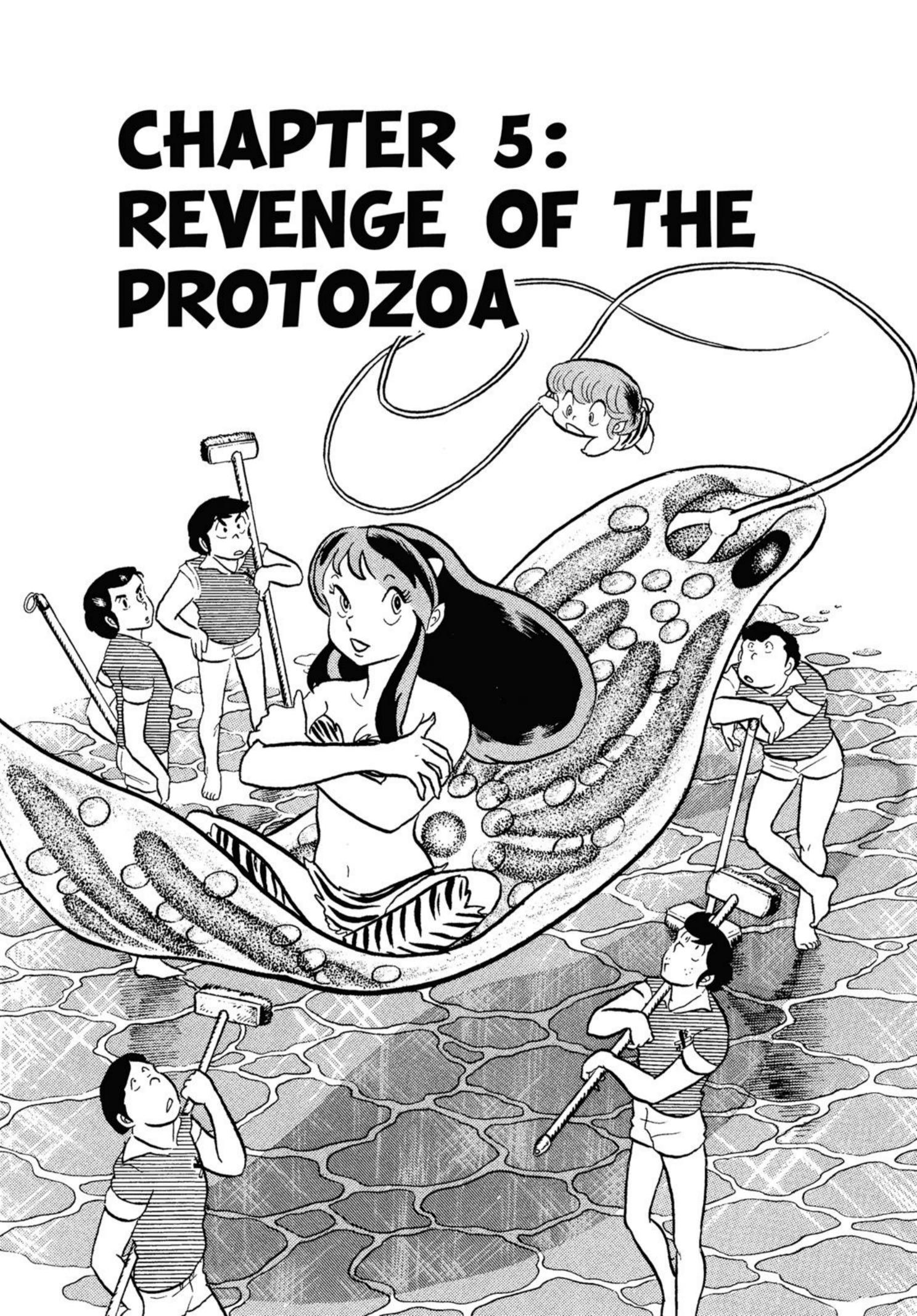




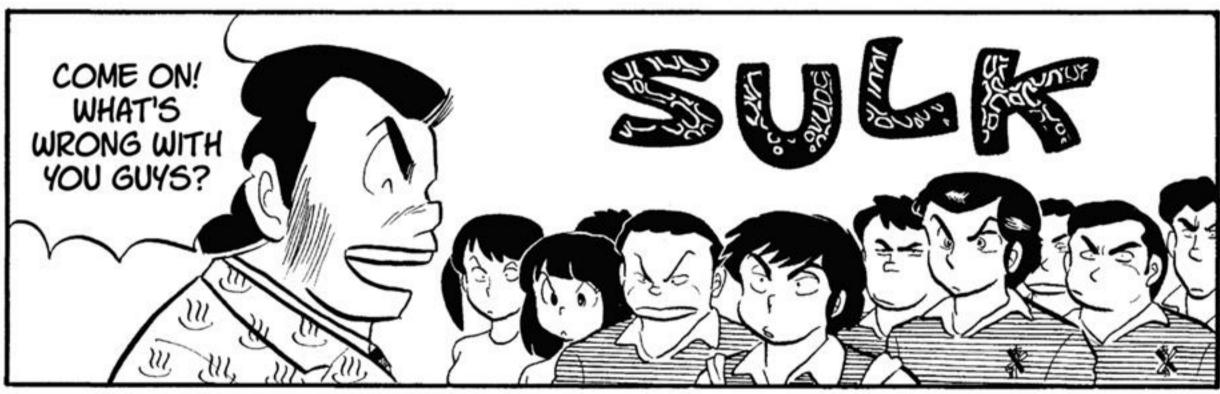


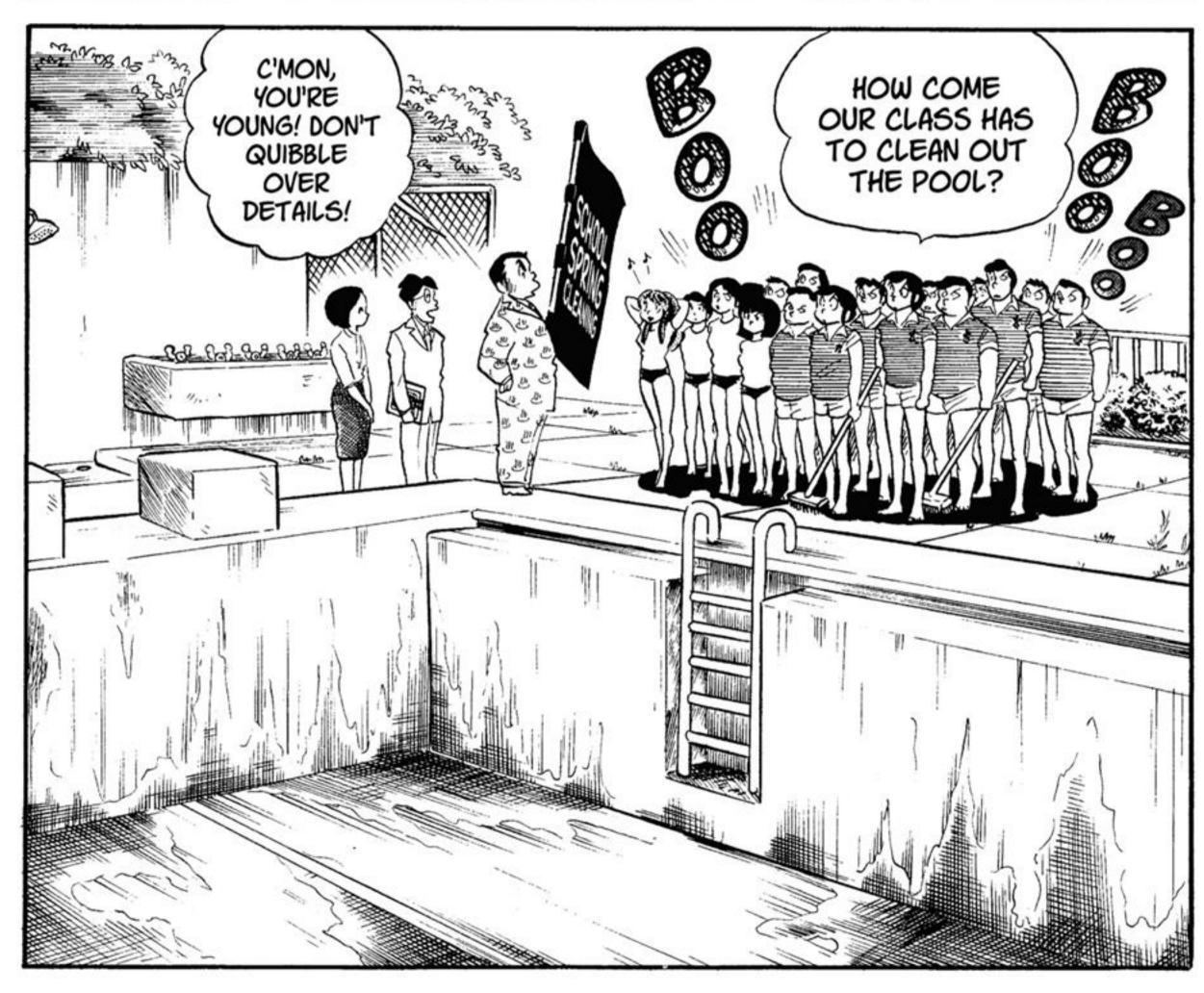








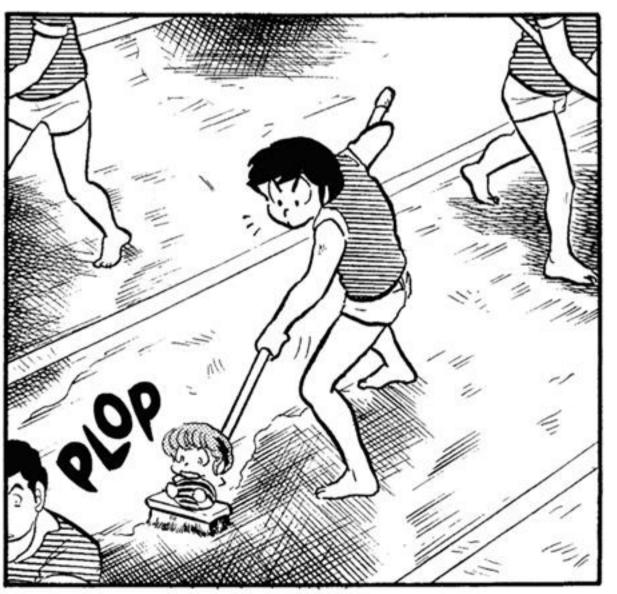


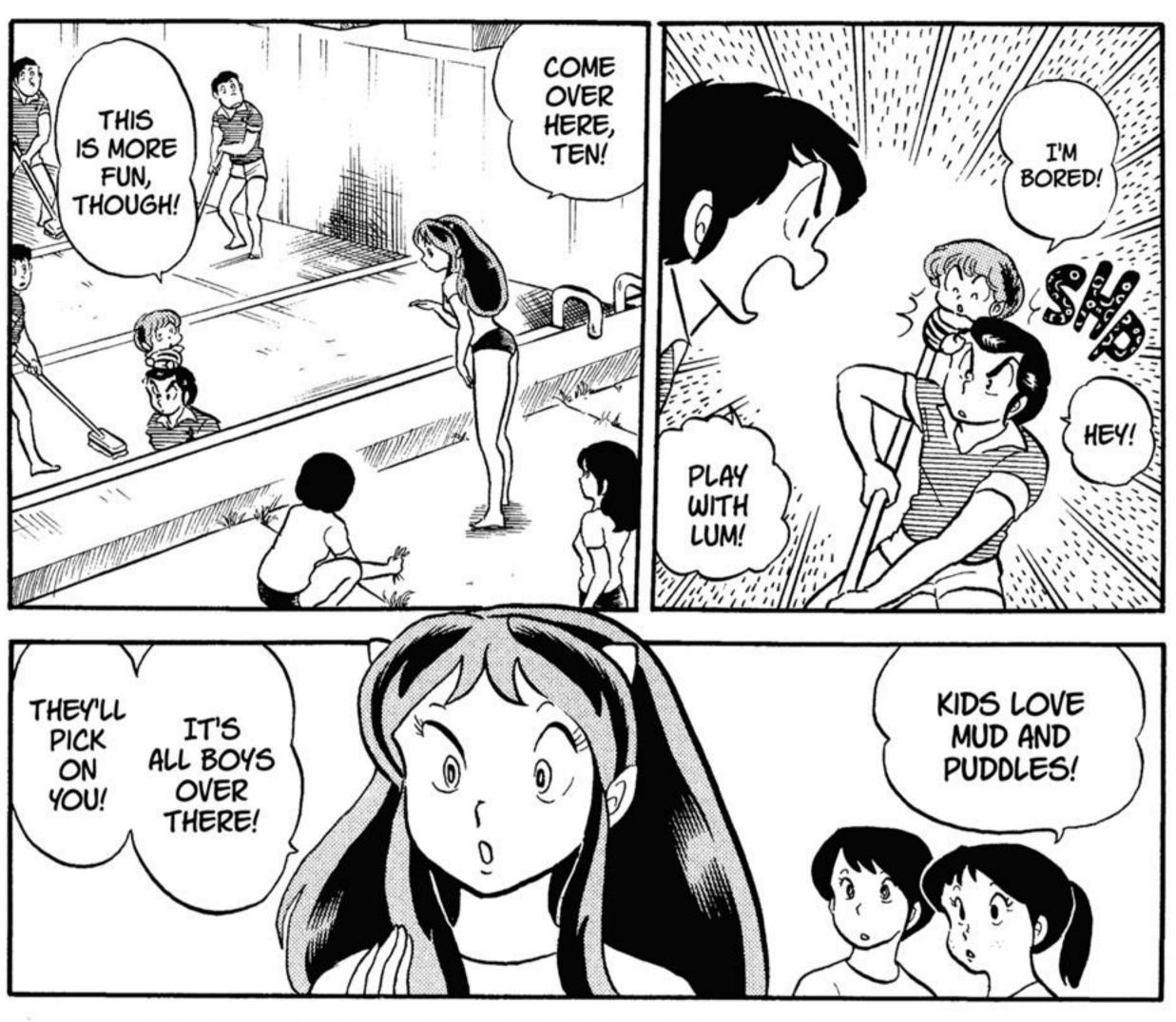










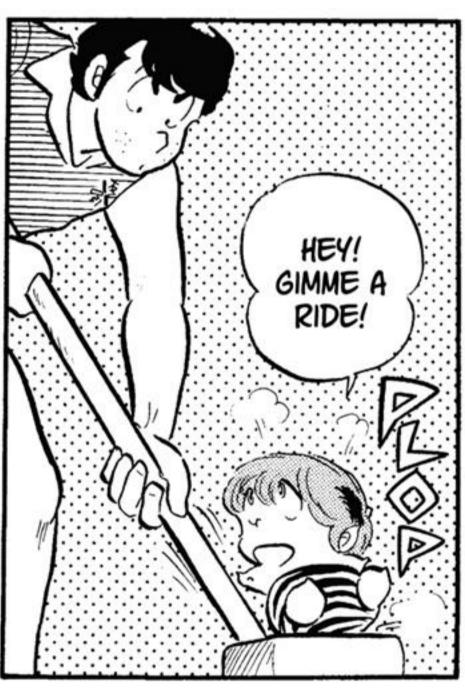
















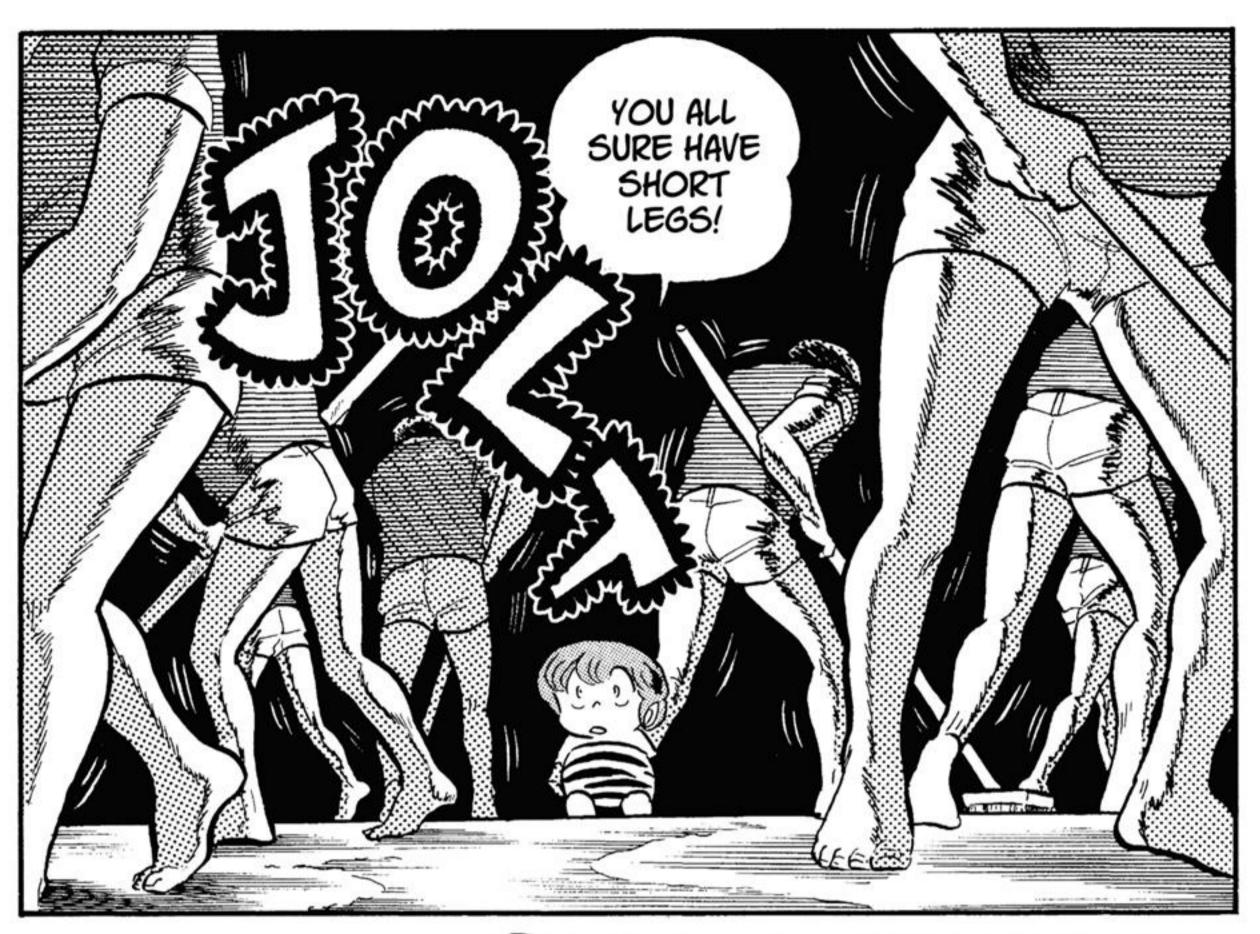


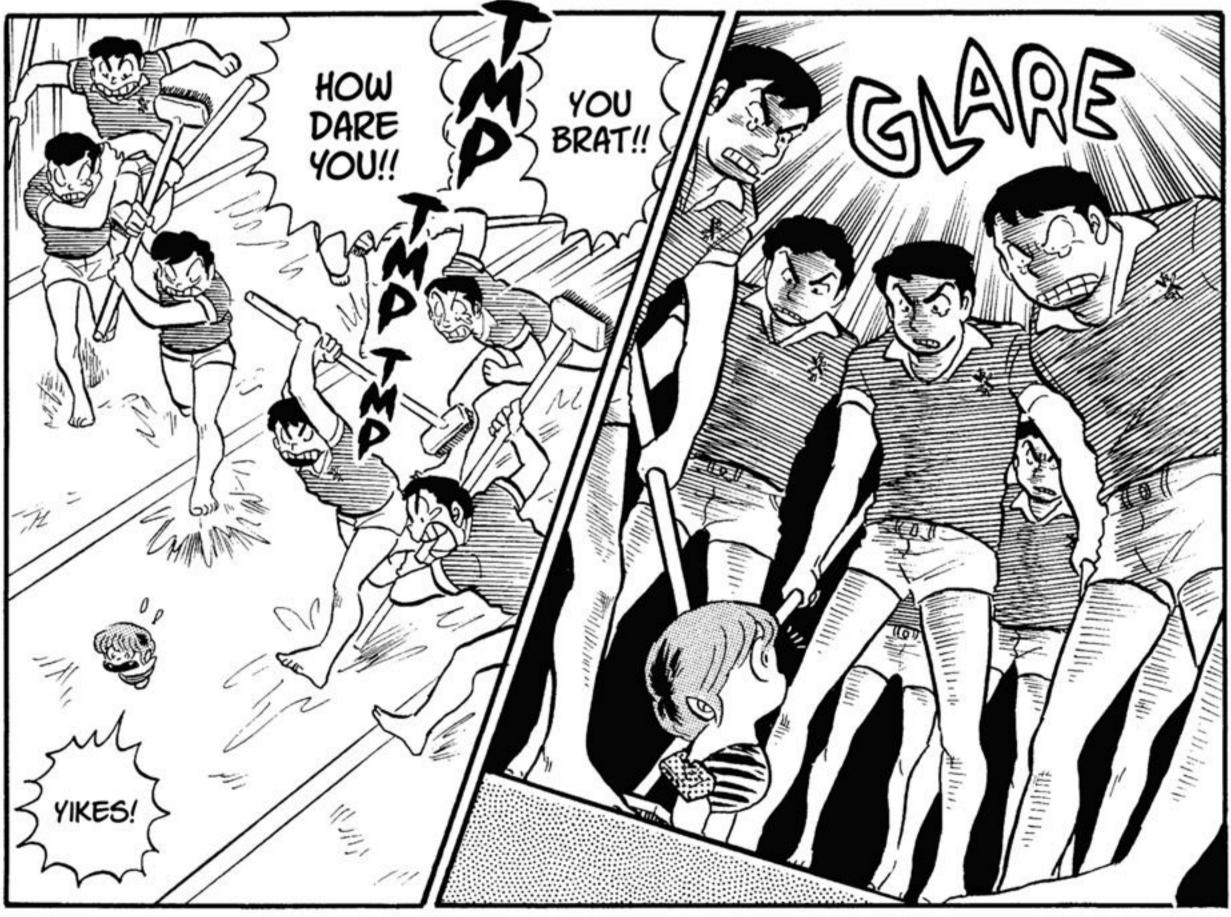


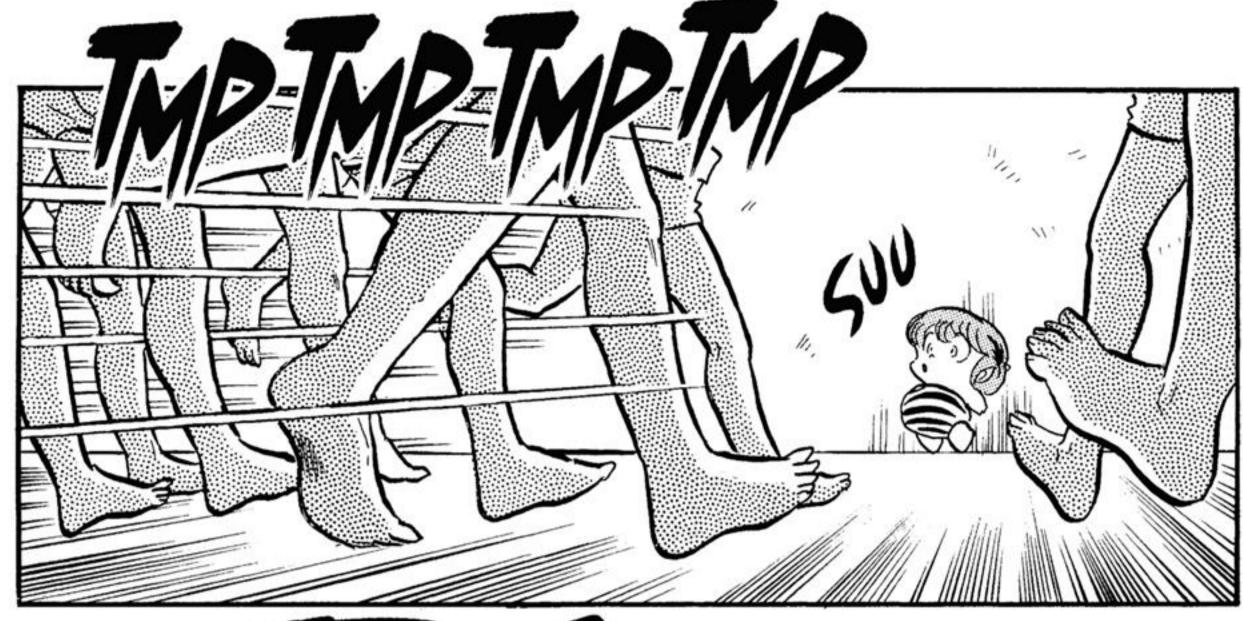
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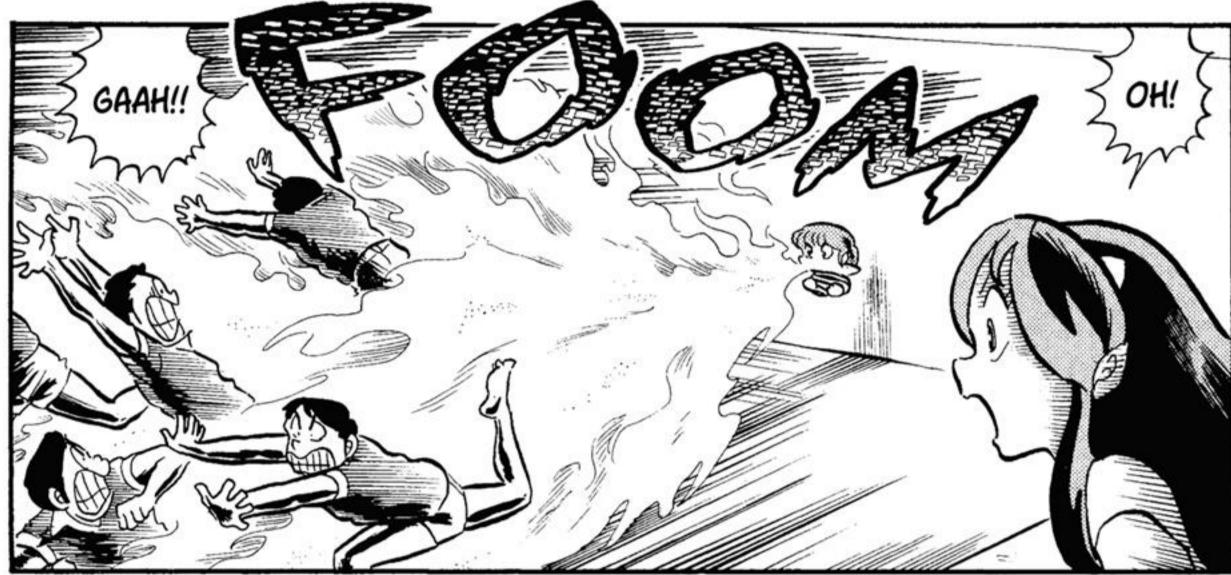


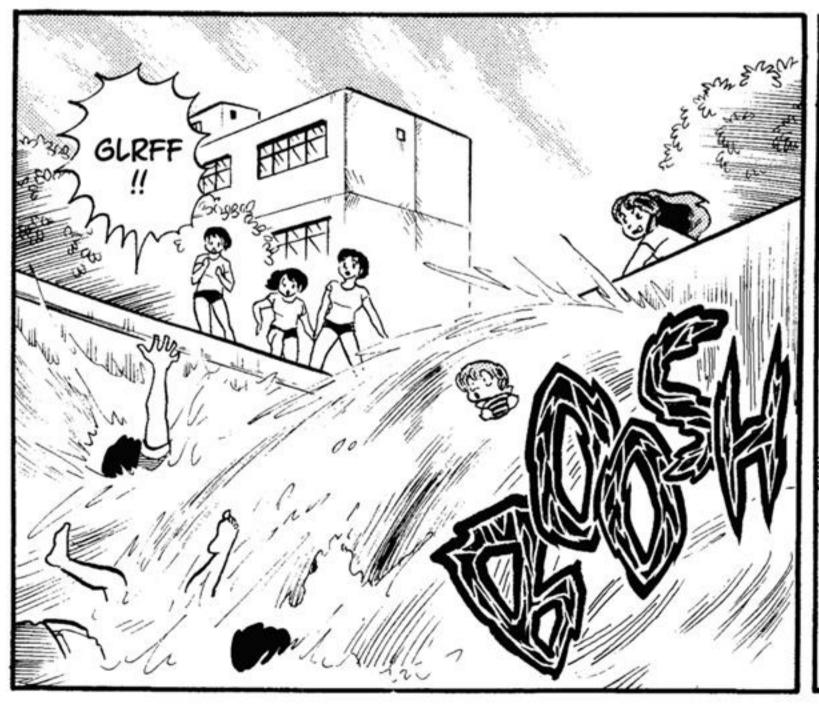










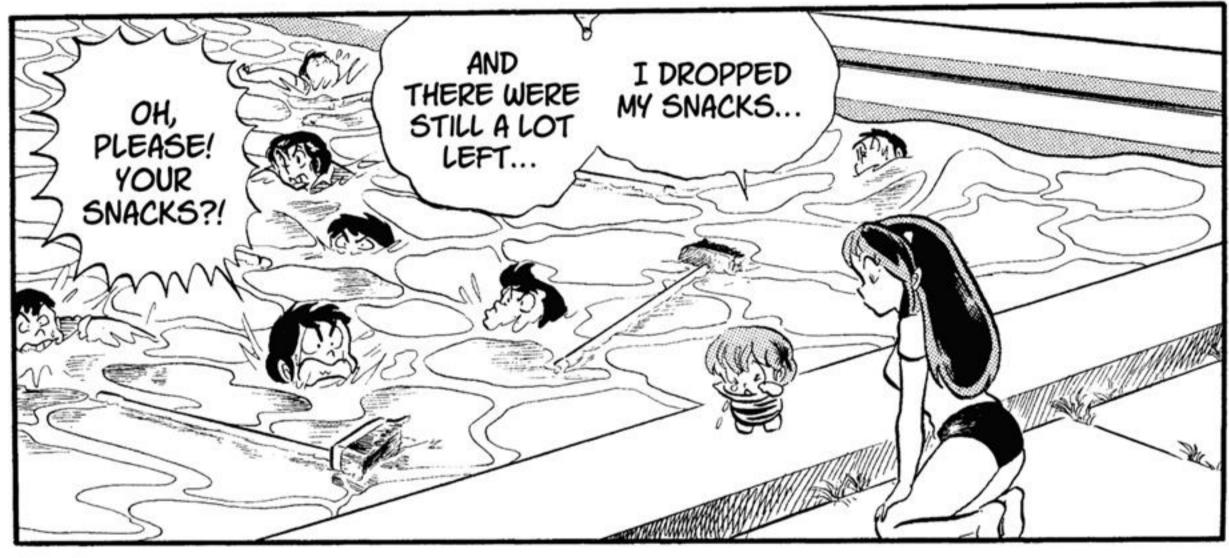


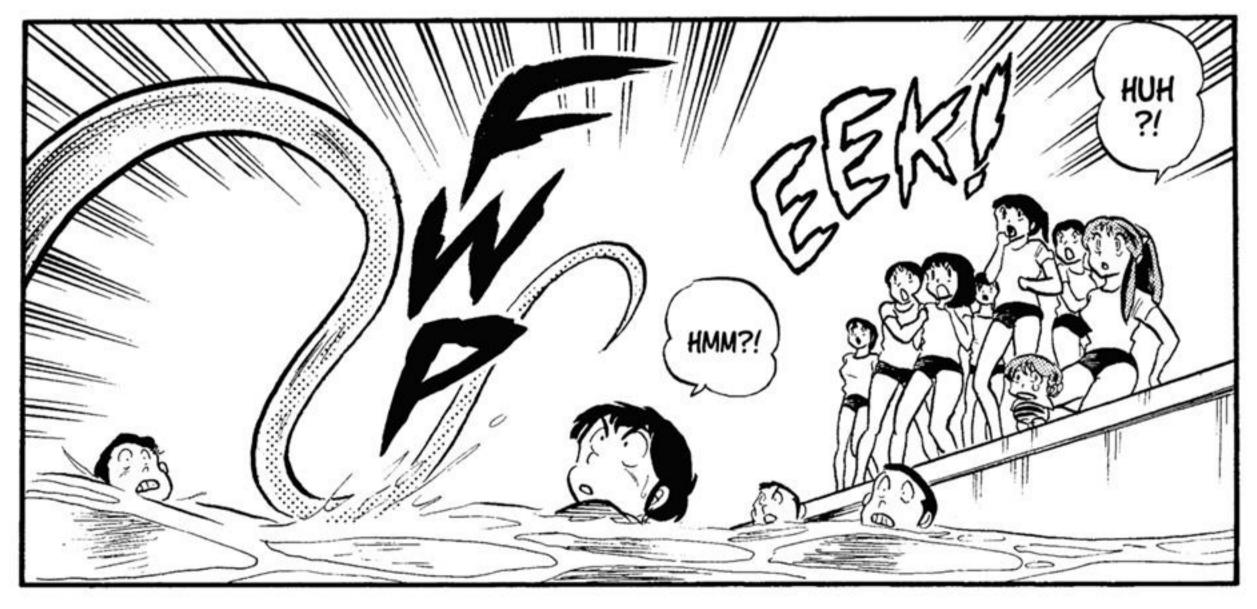




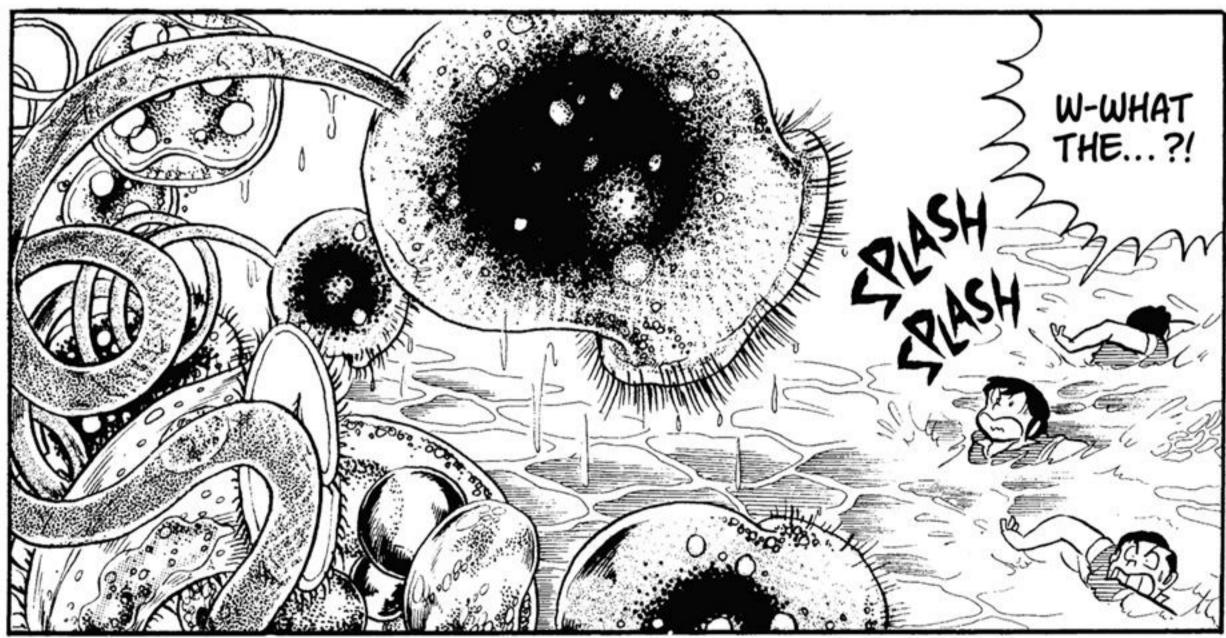






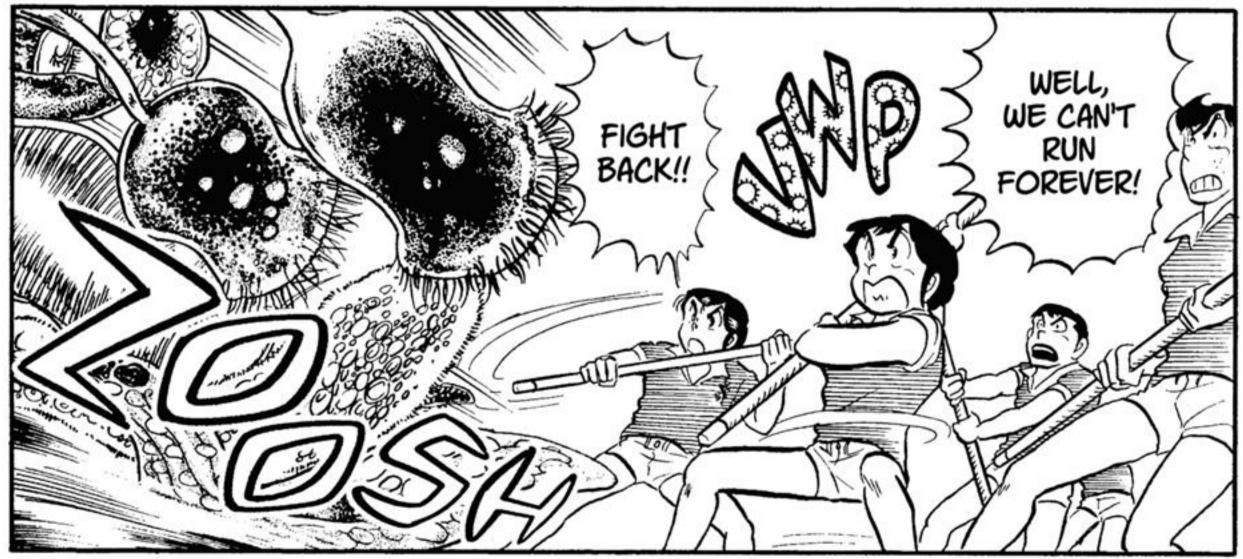


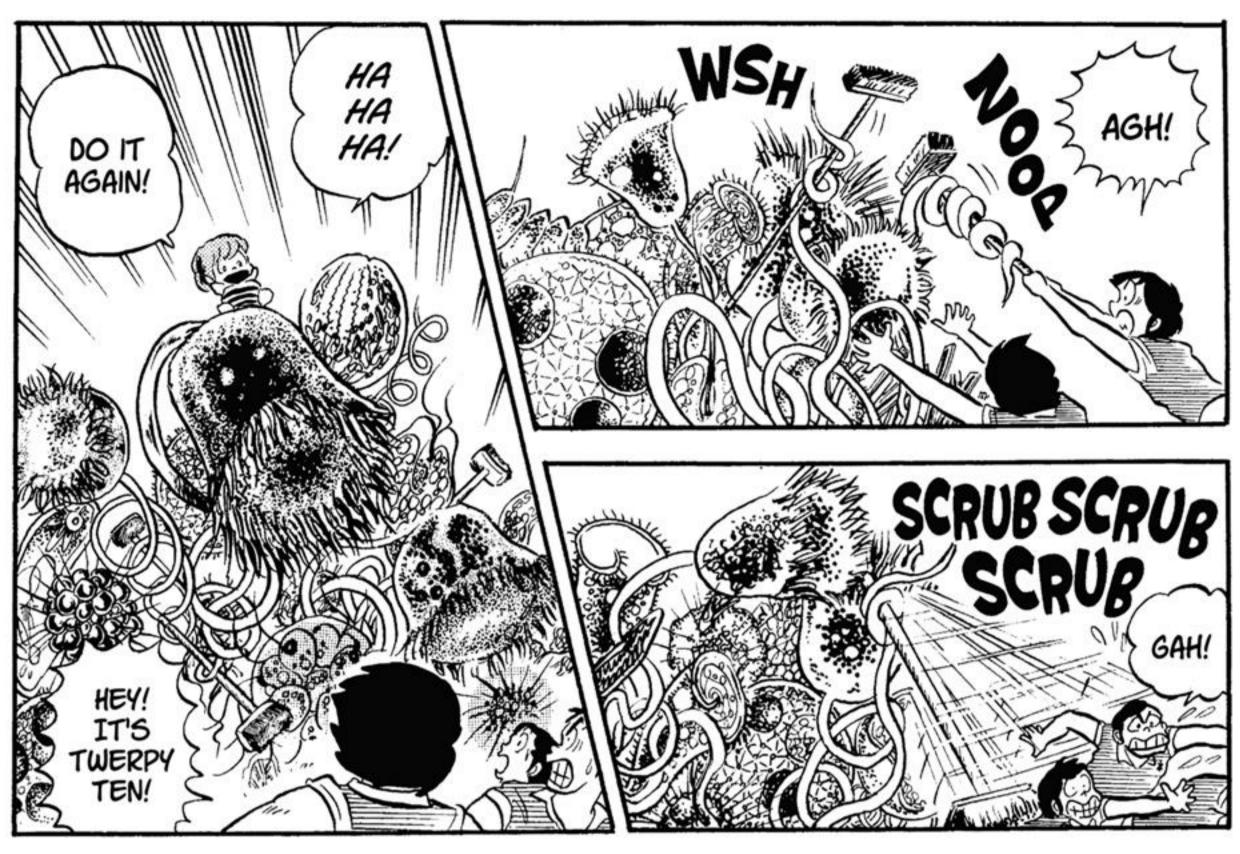


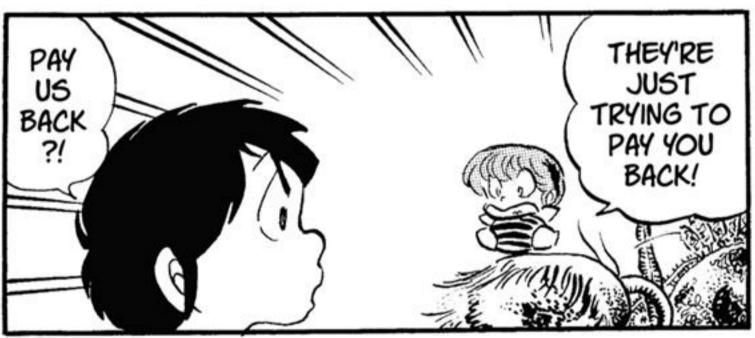


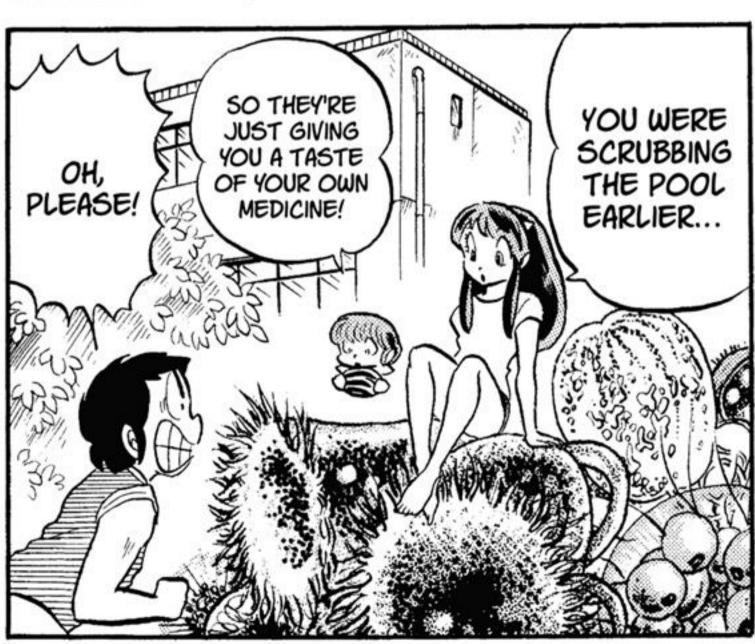


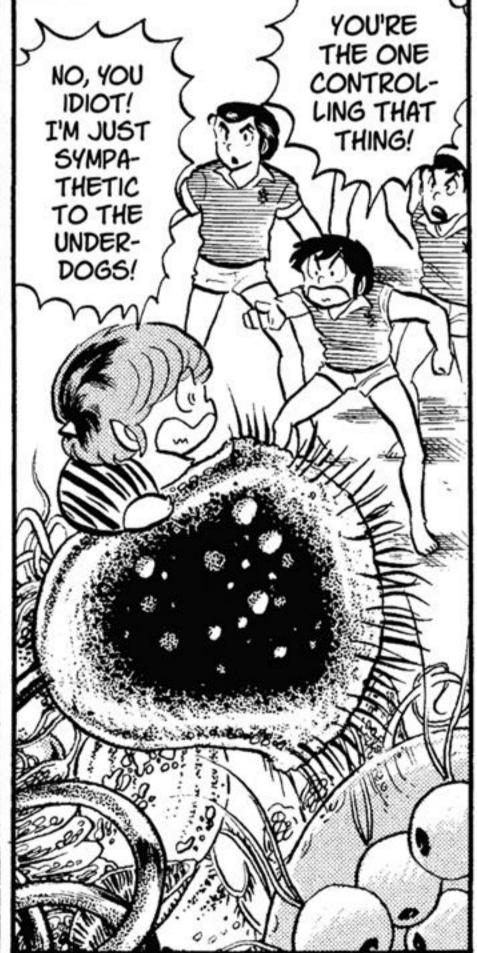


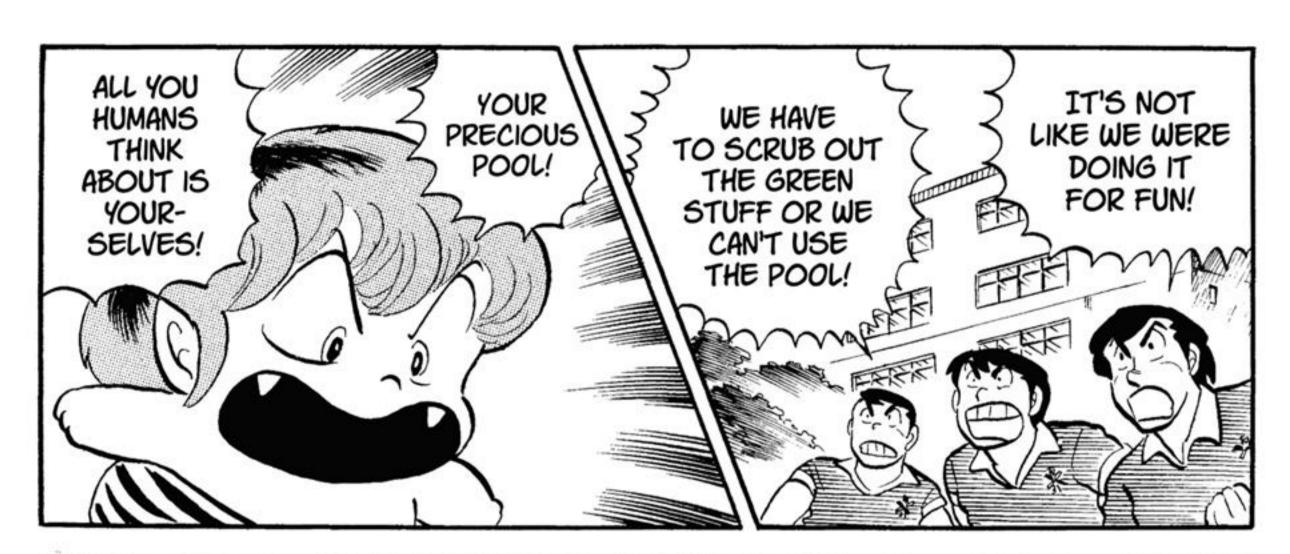








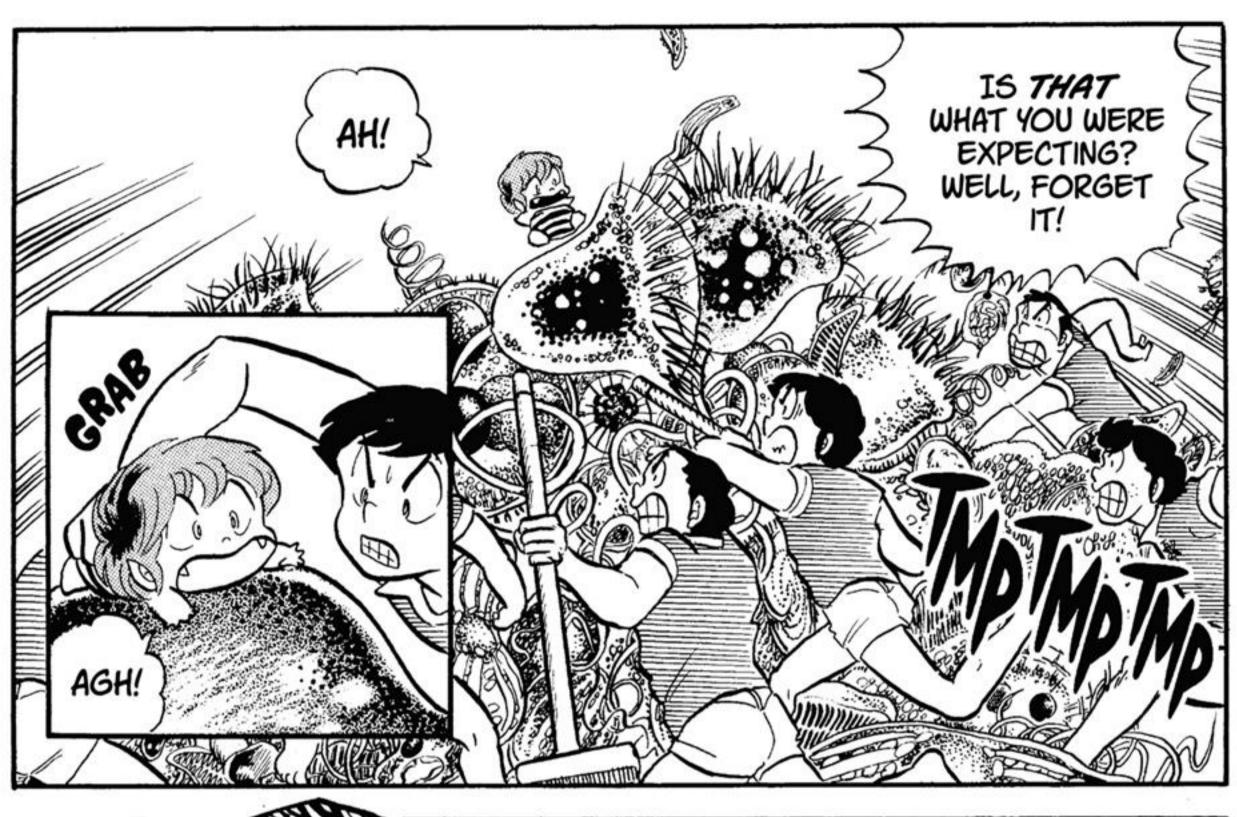


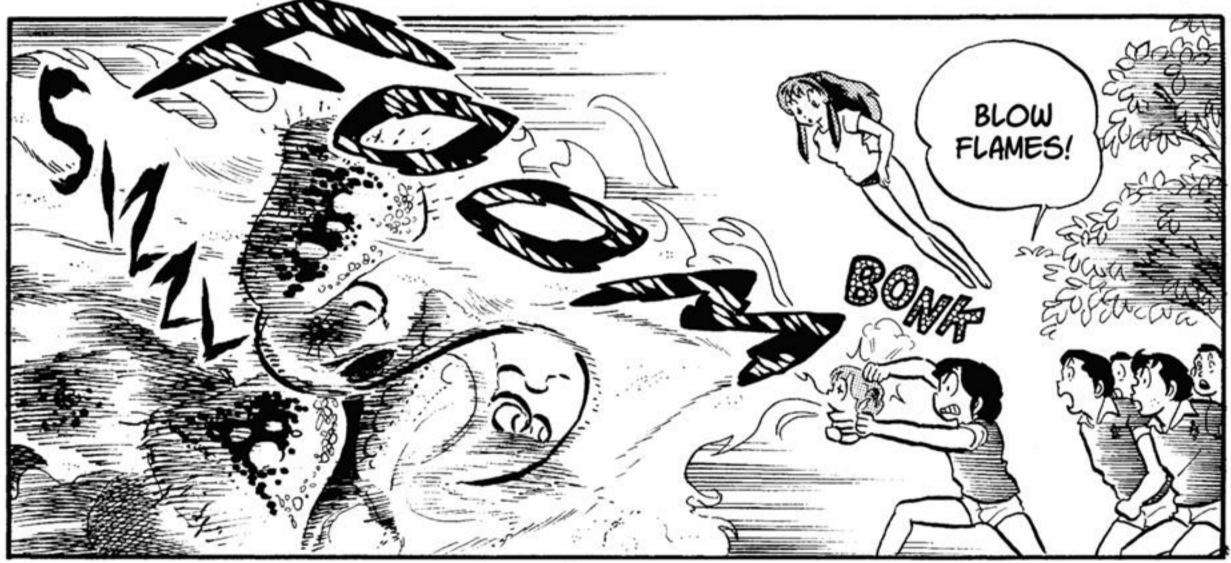








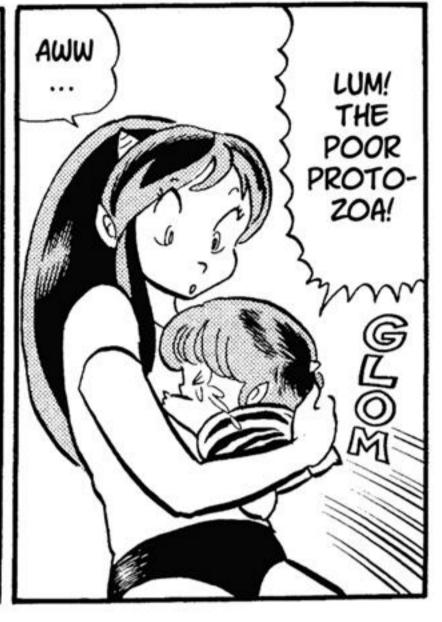


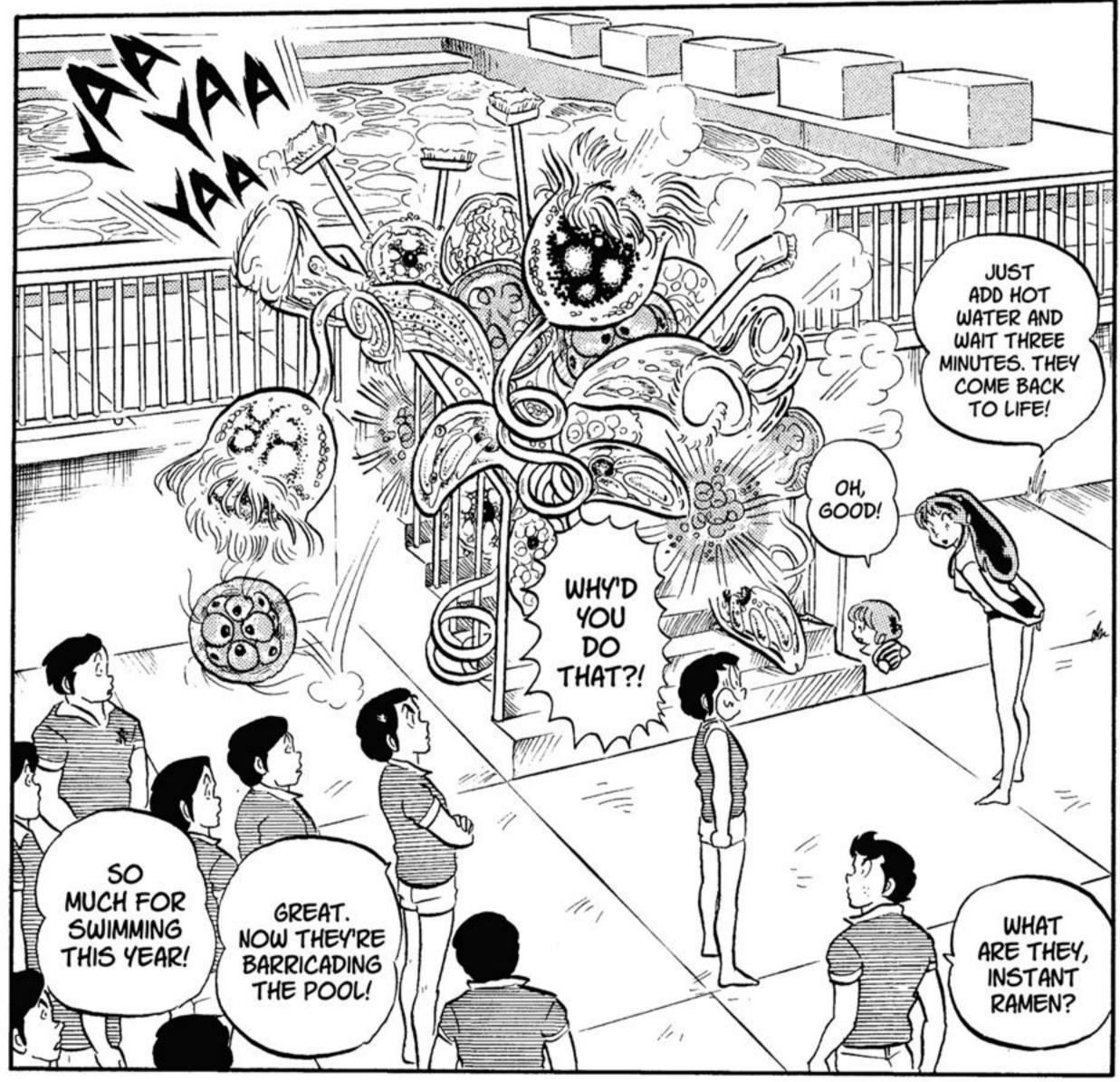




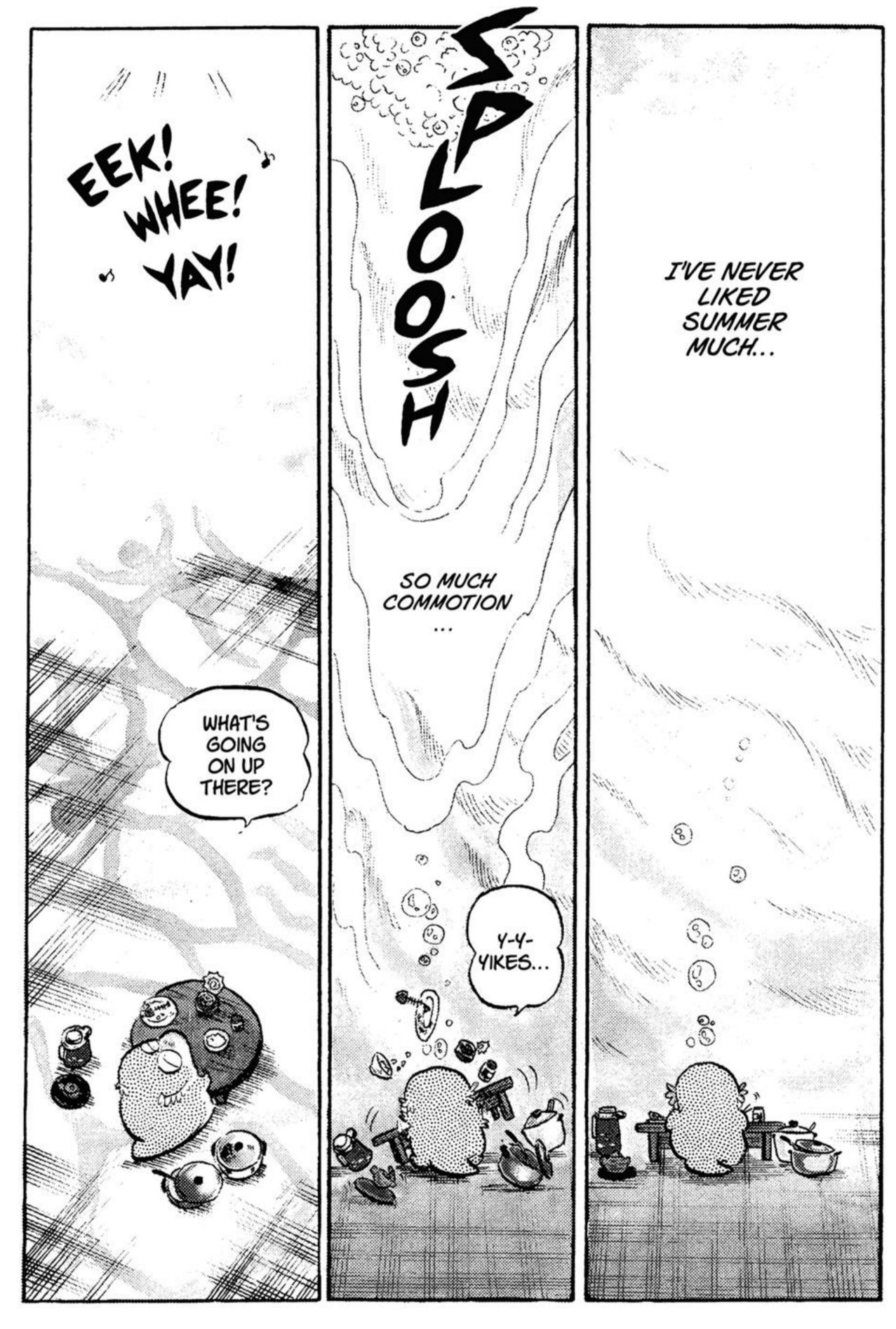








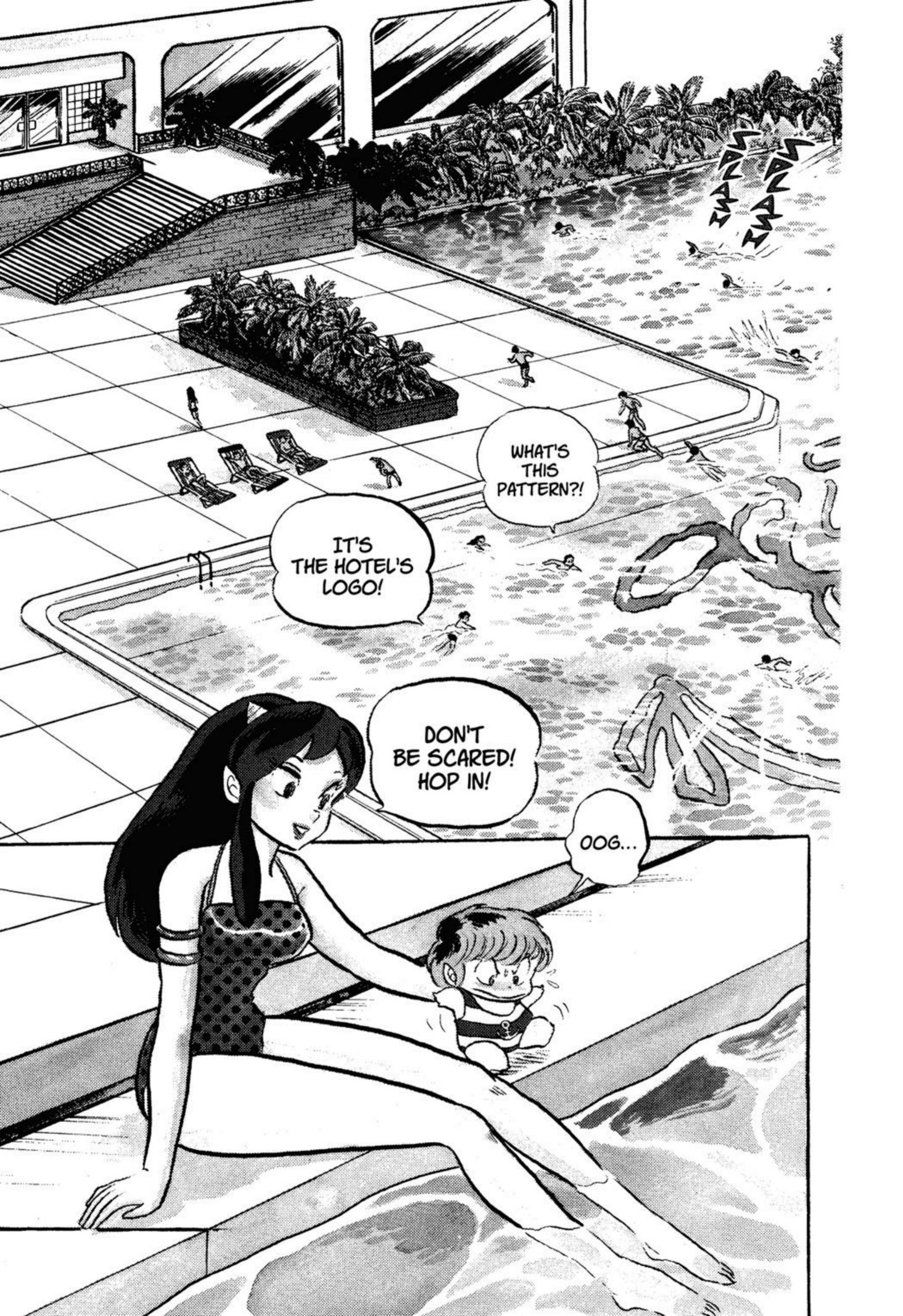






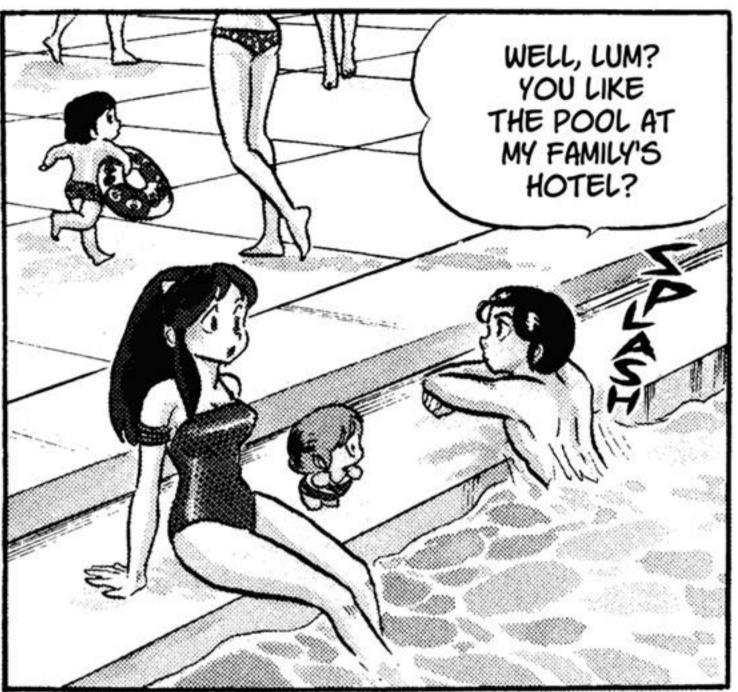






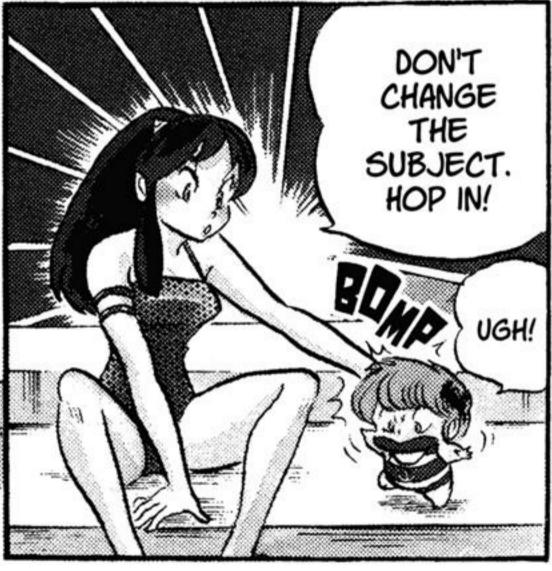




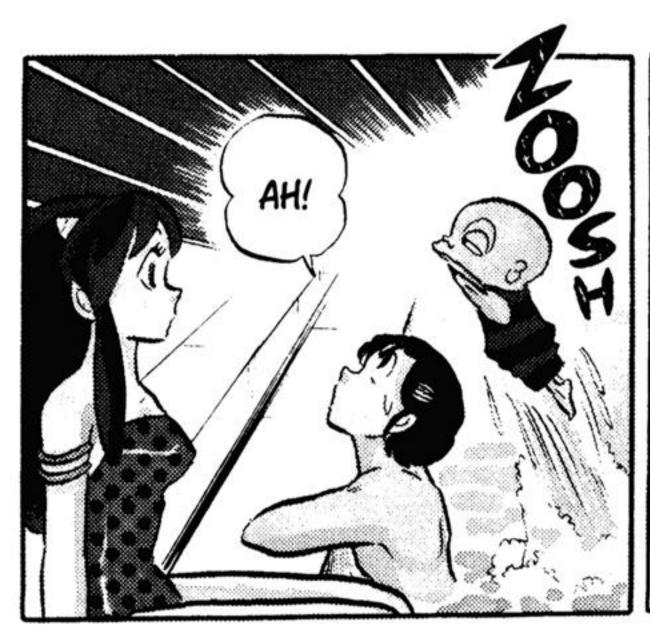


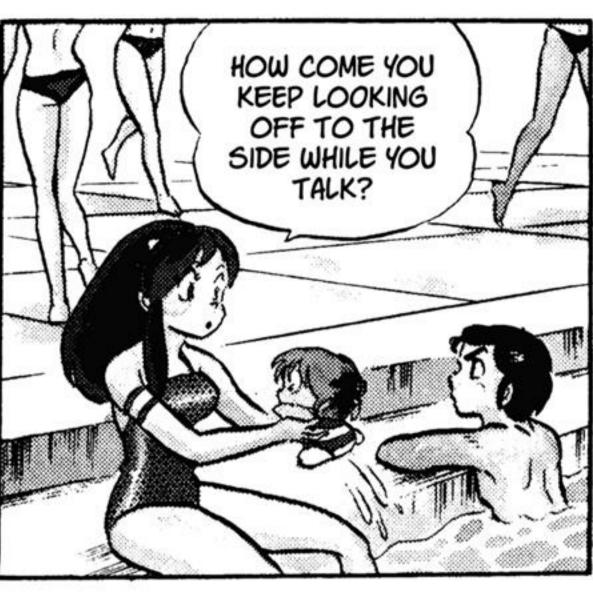






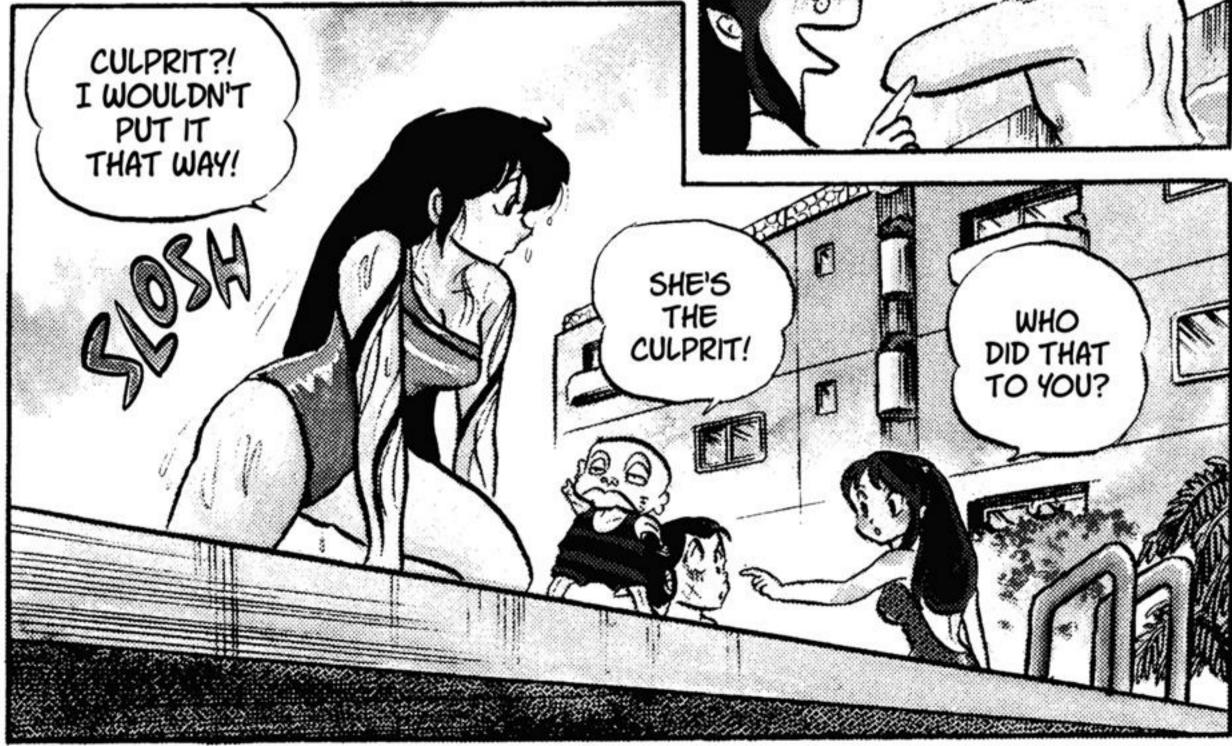


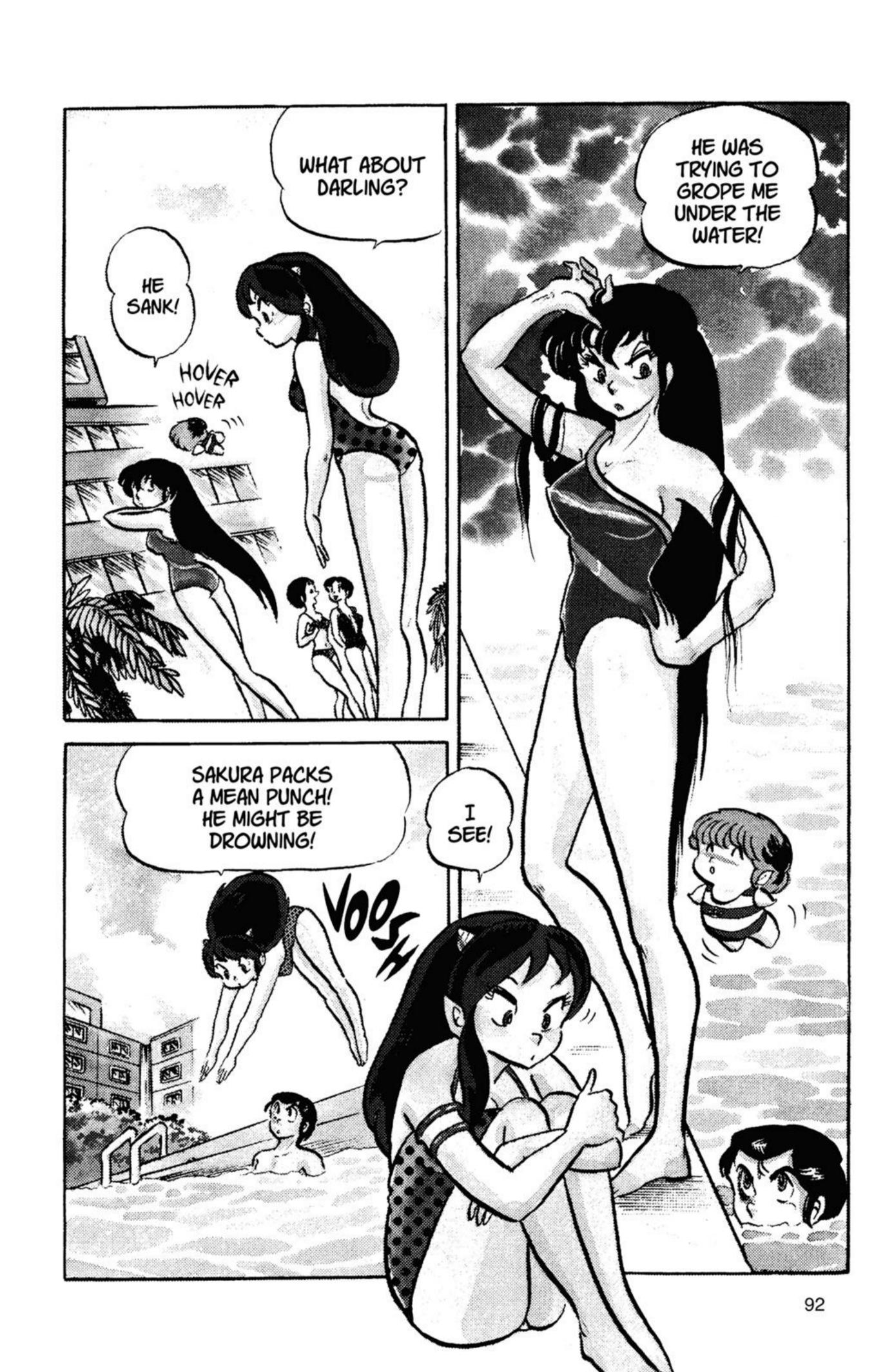


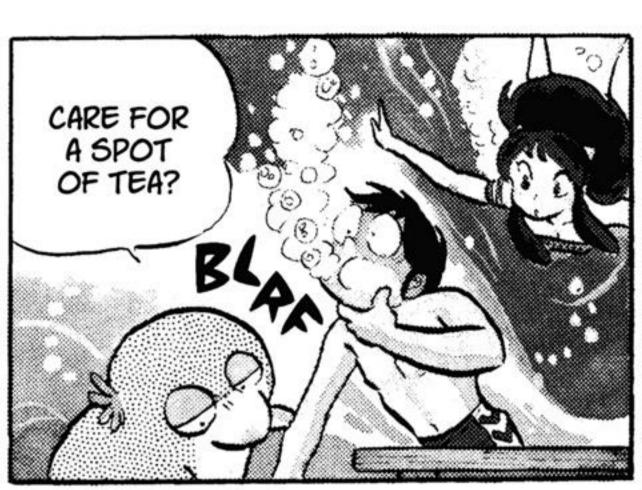










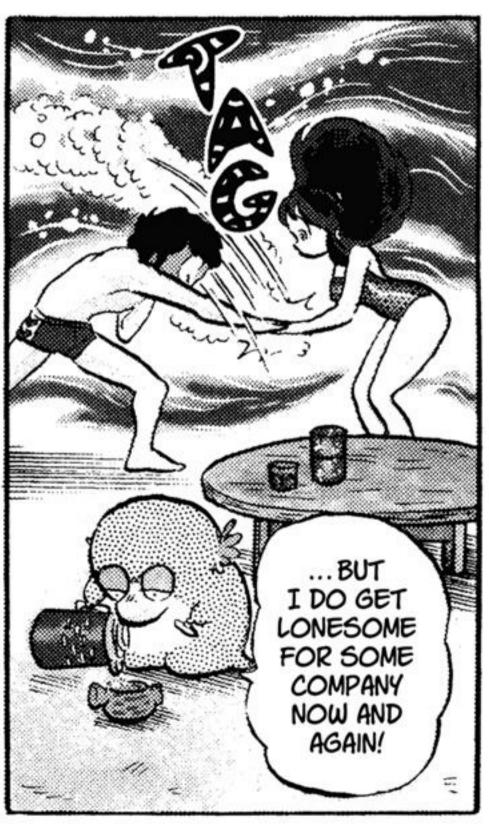


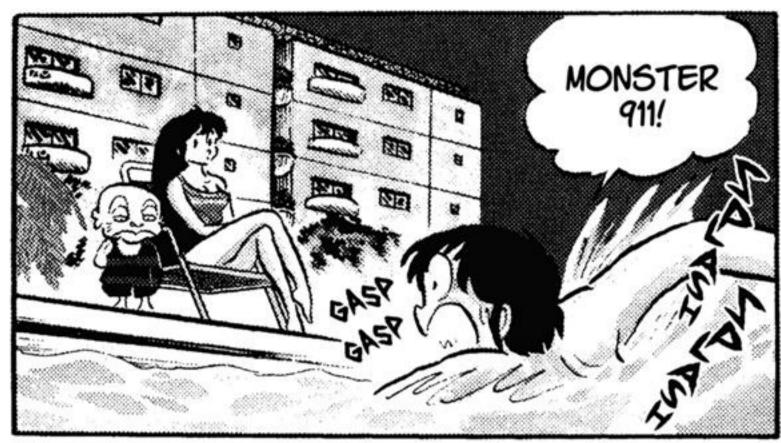




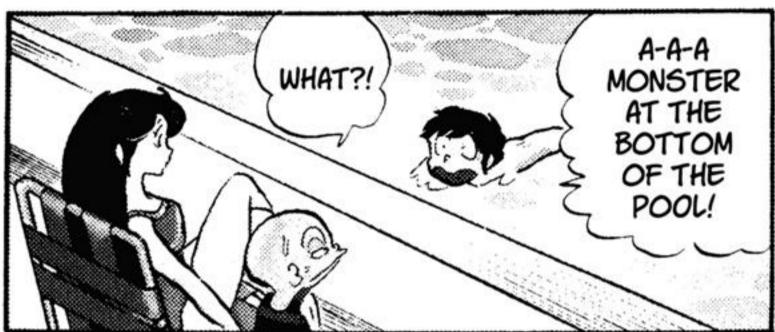


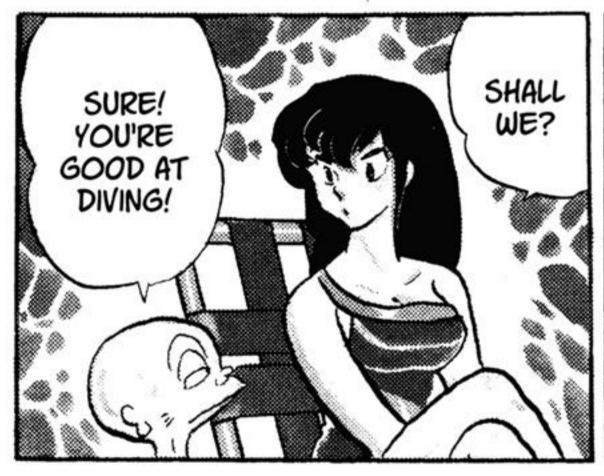


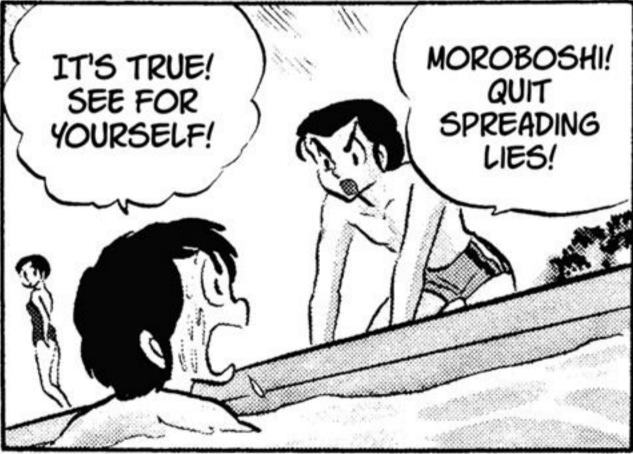












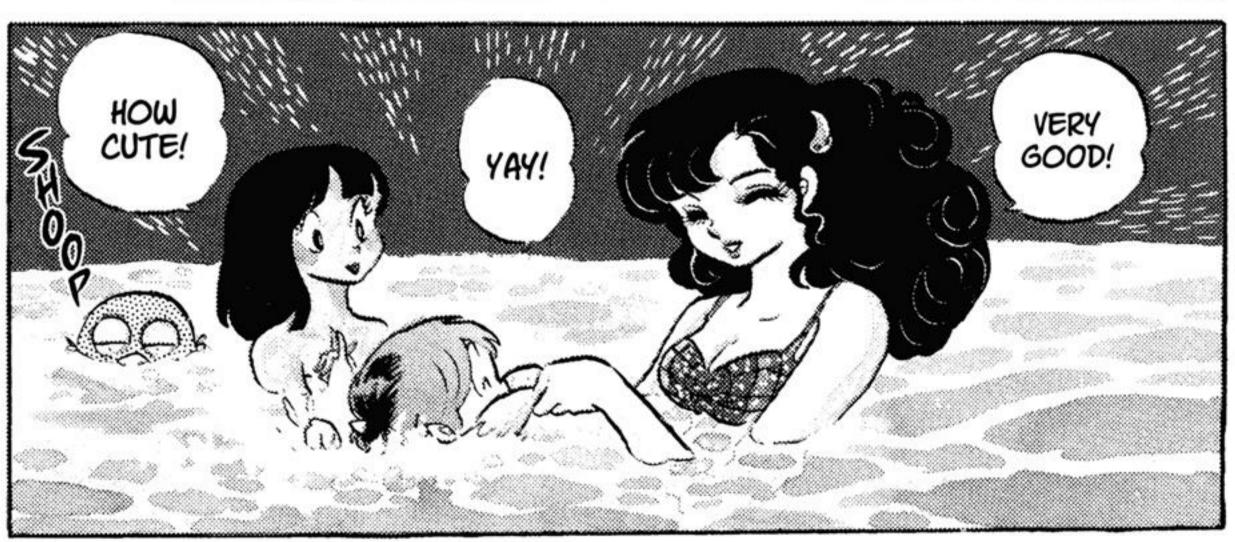


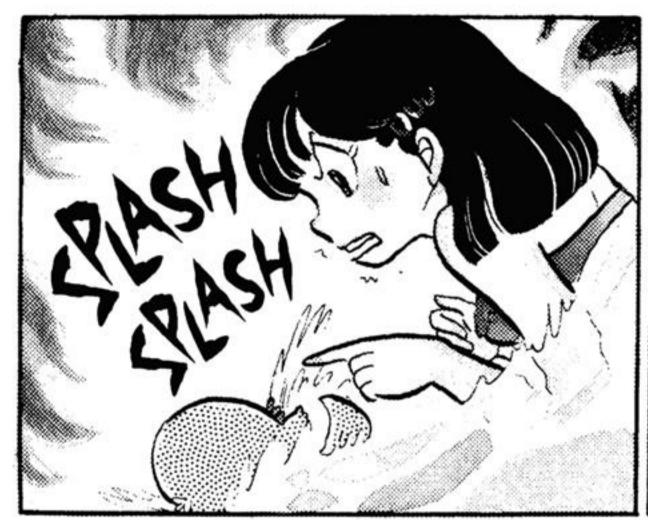




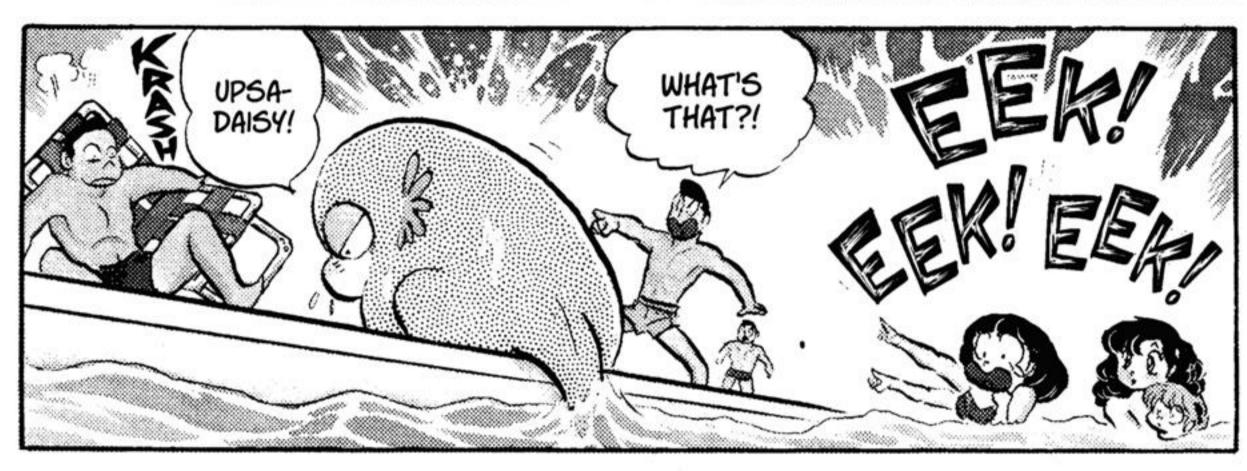






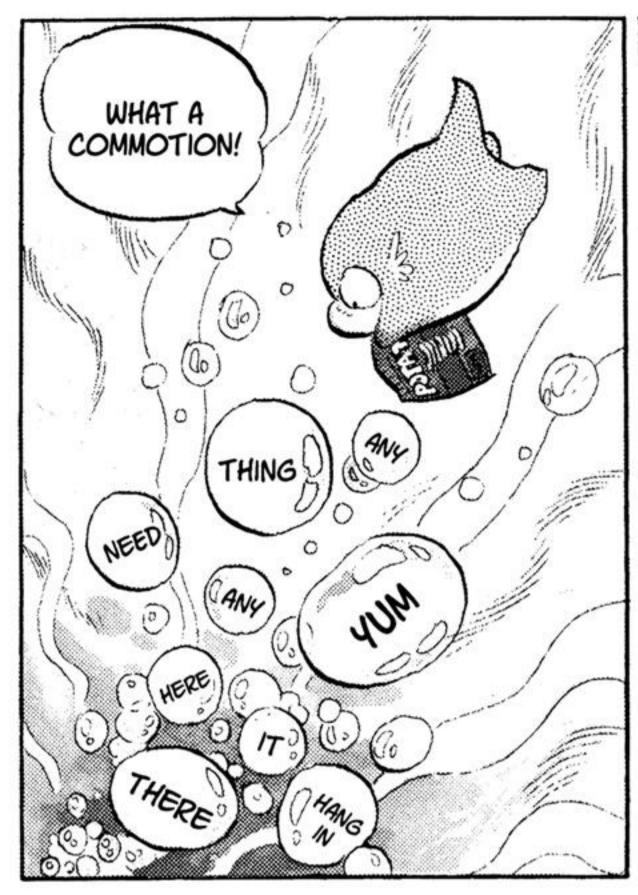




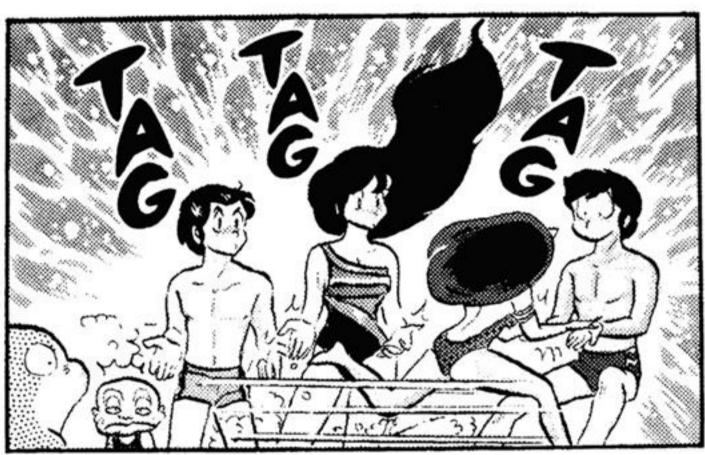


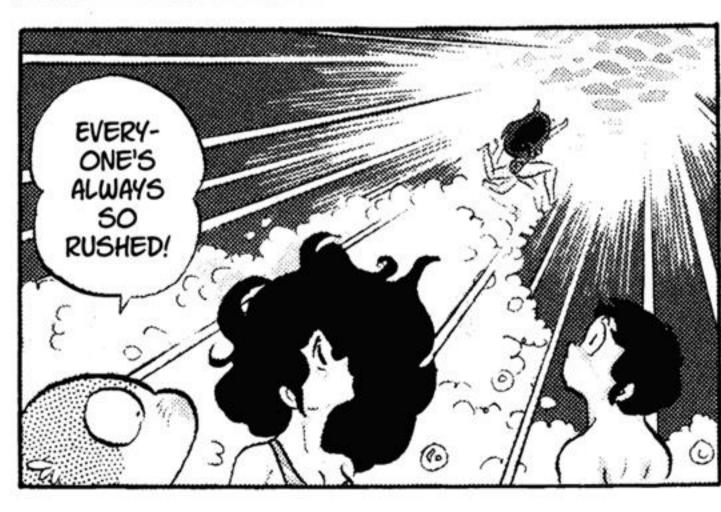




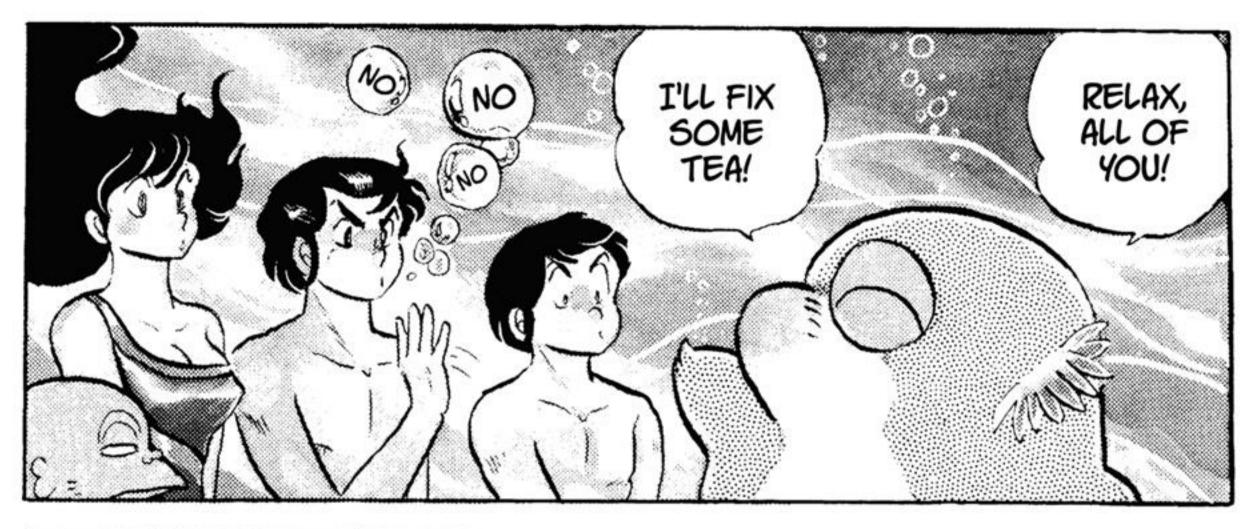








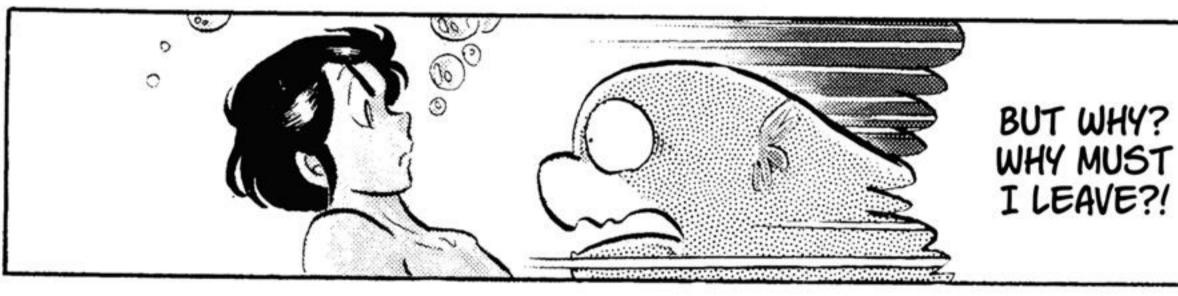


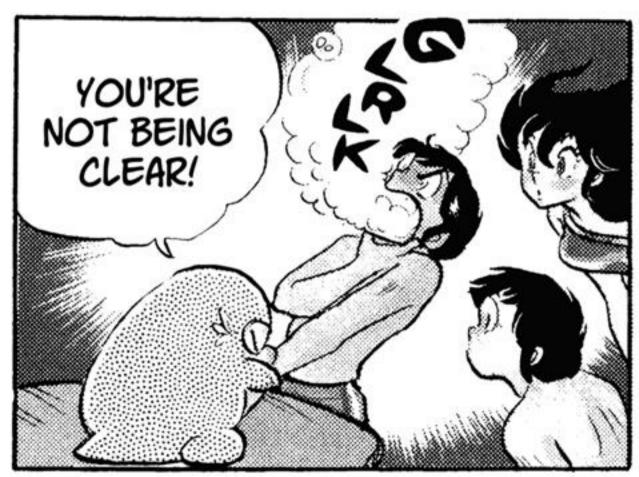










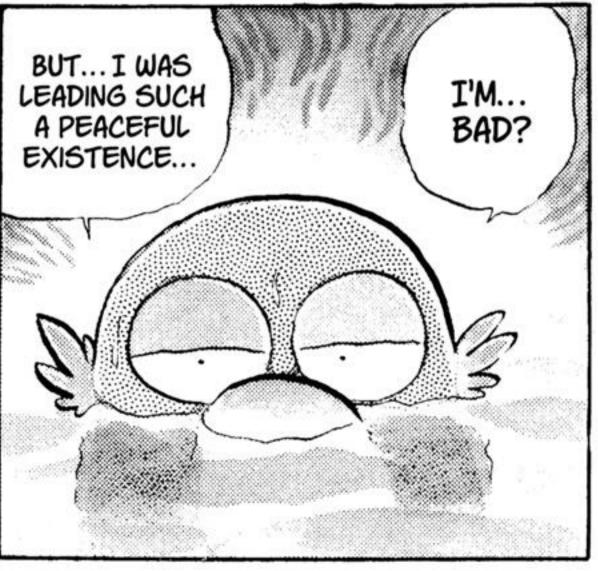








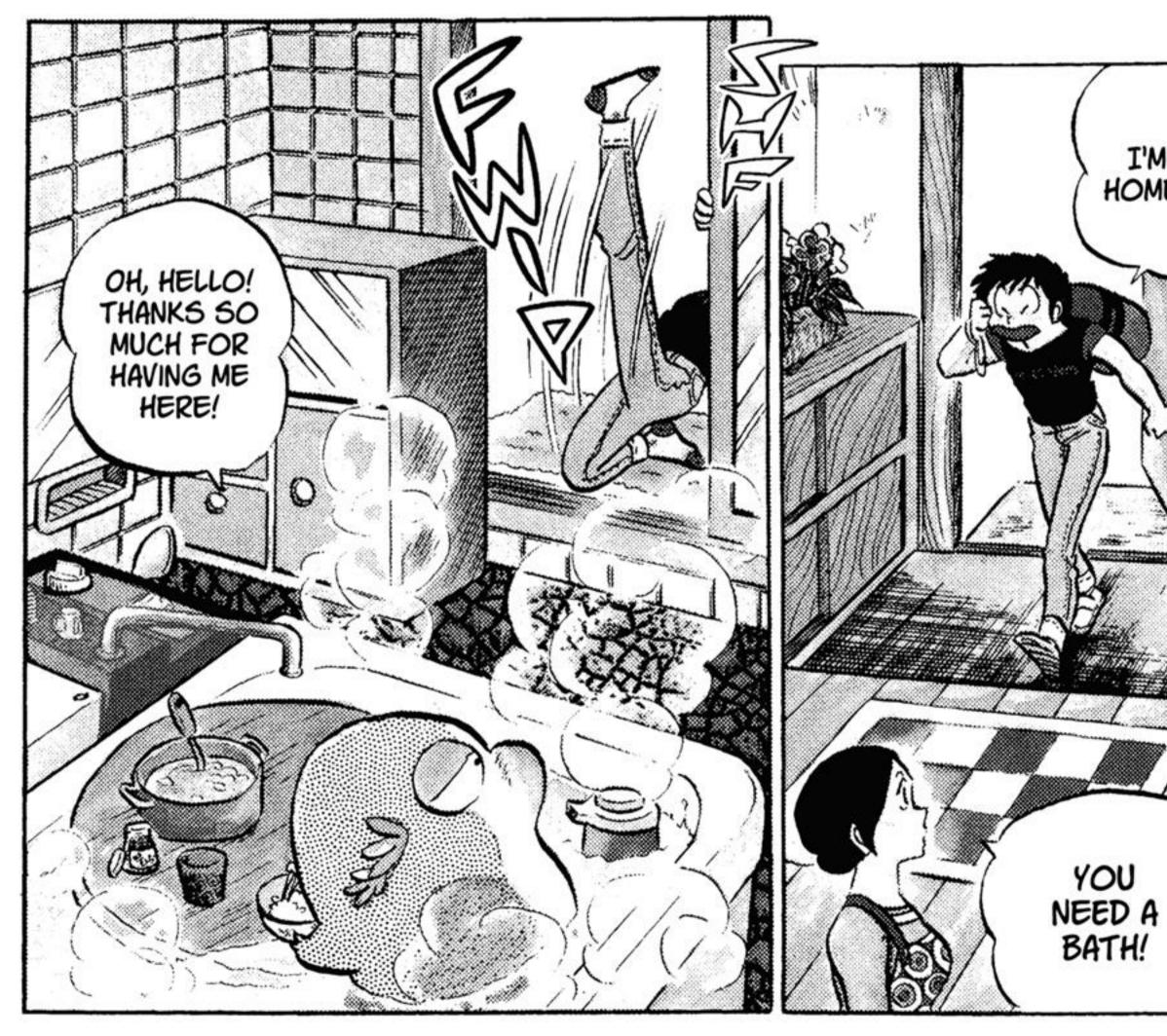








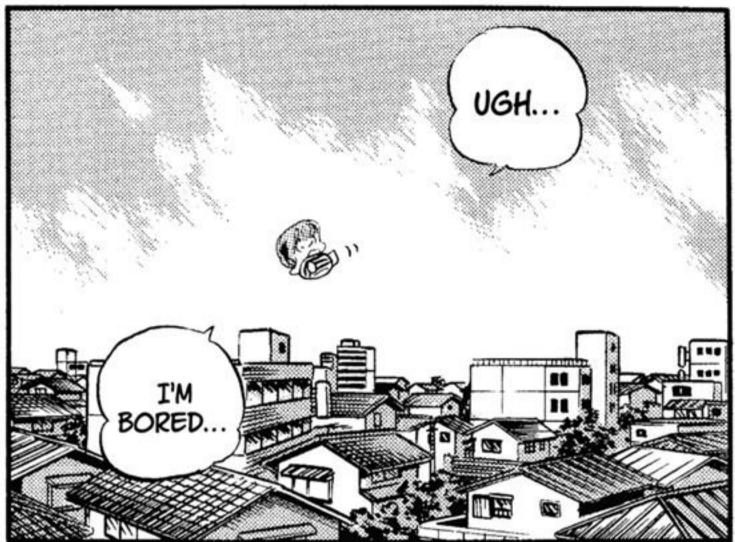




I'M HOME!





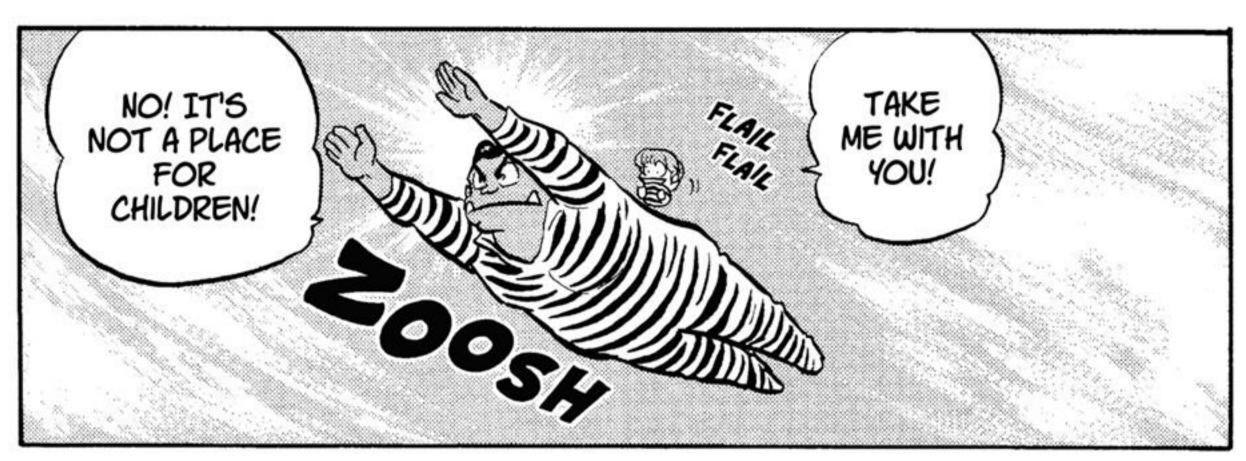
















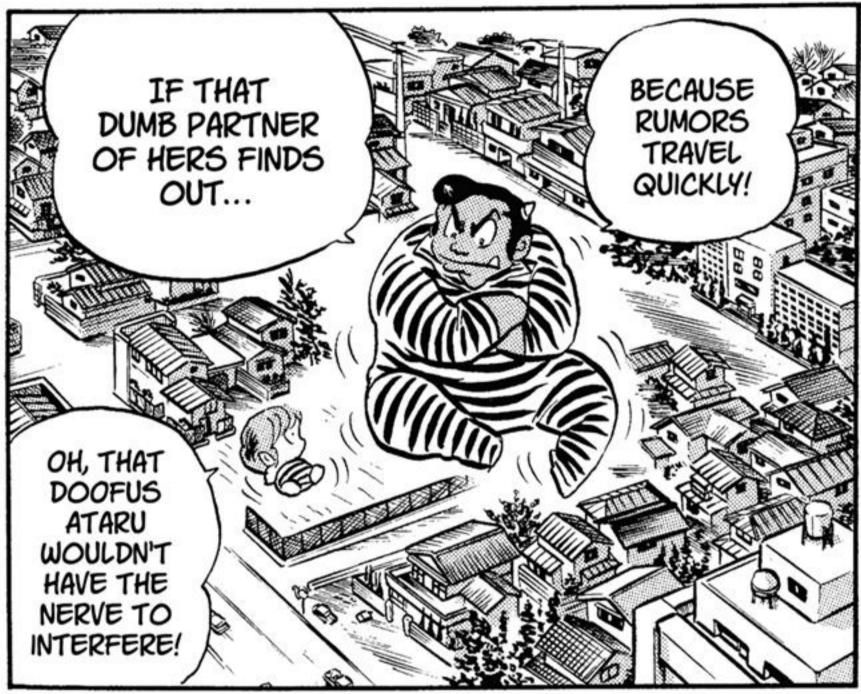














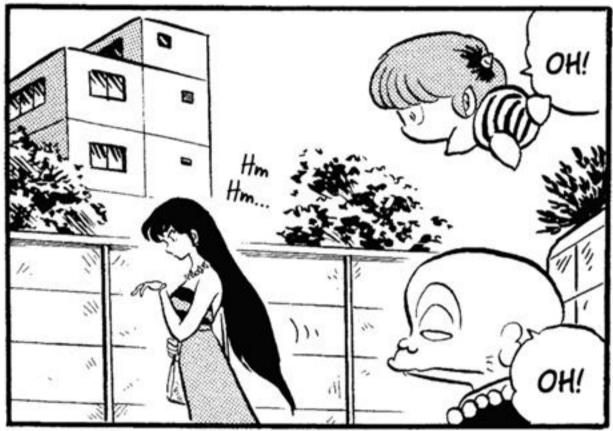


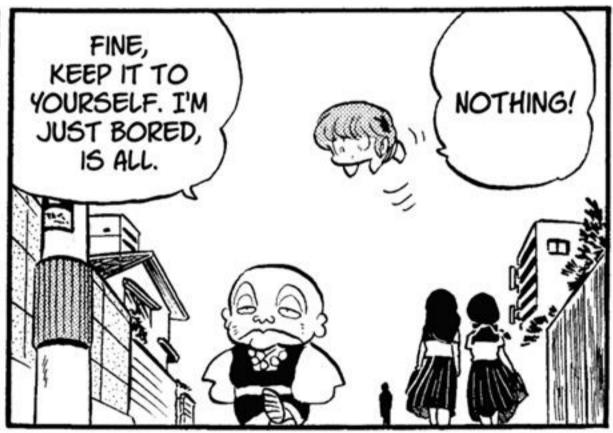










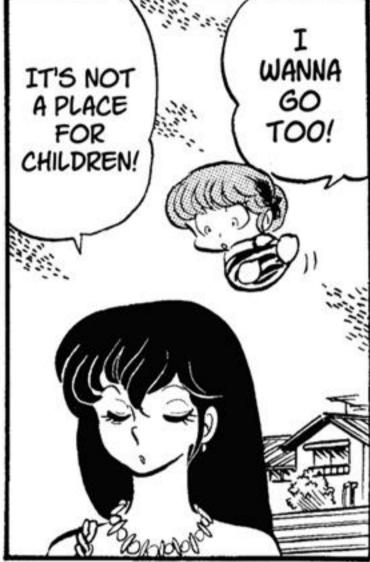


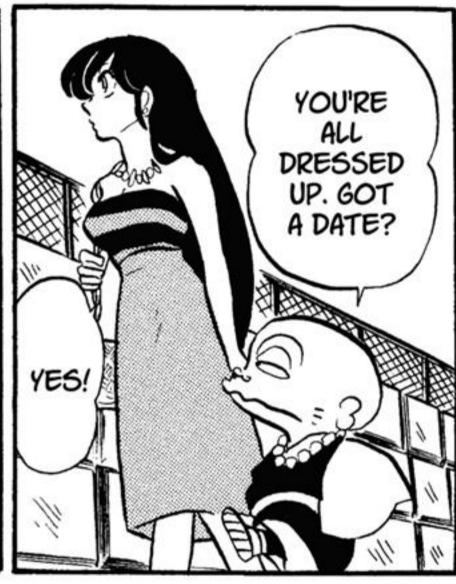




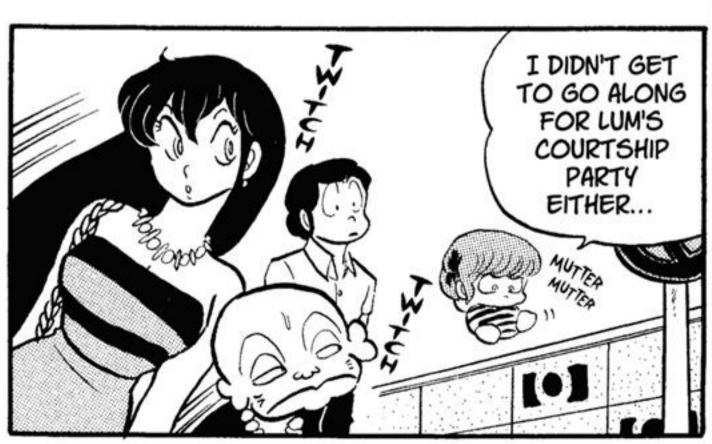










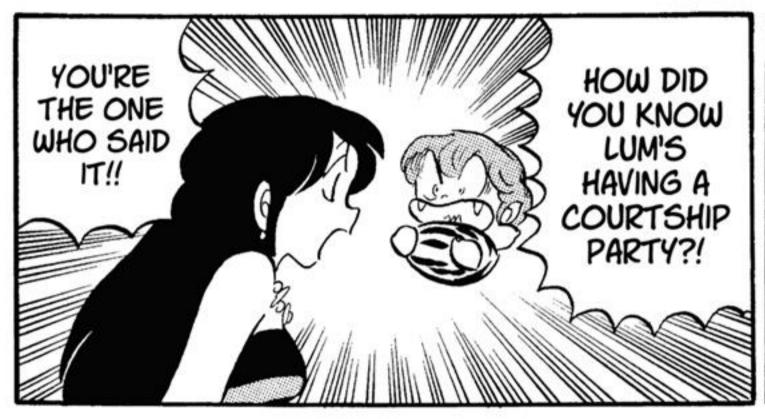












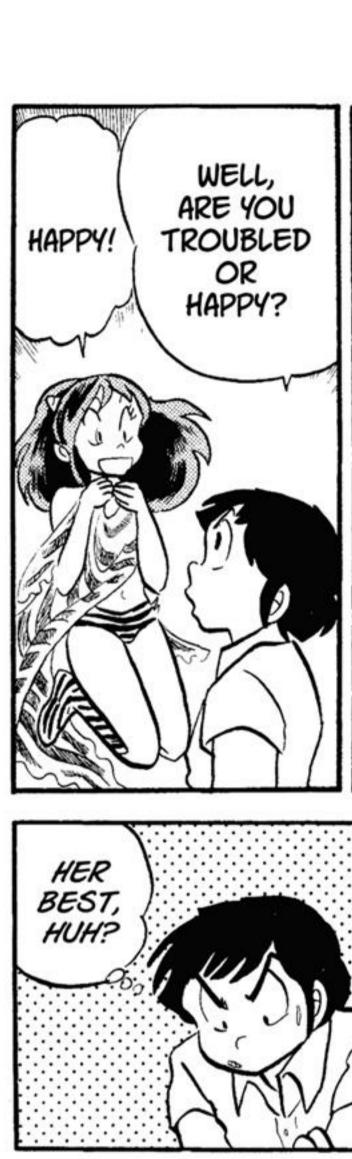








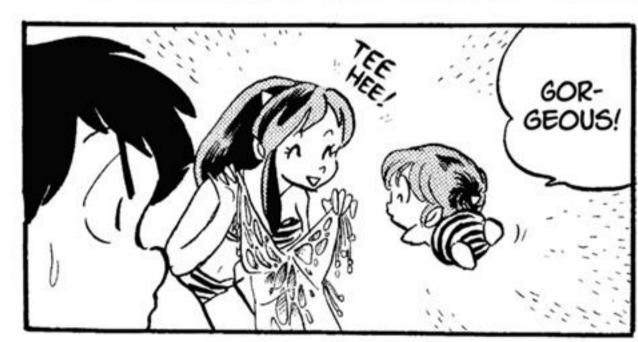


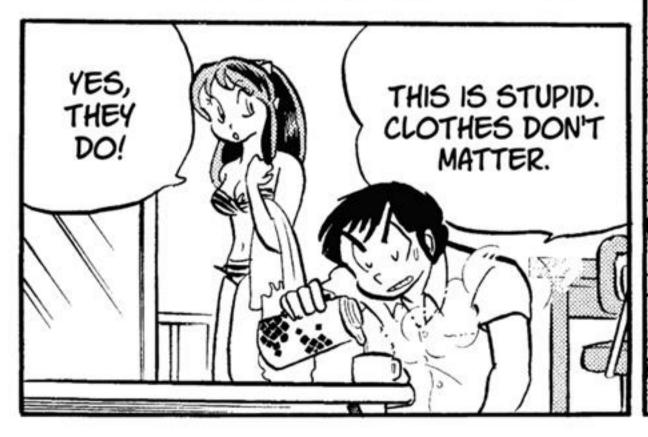




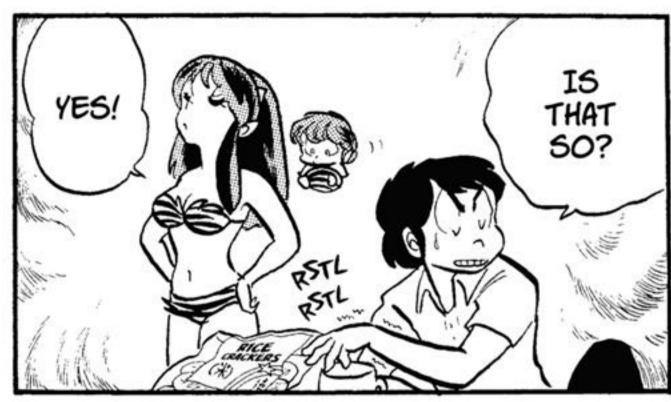






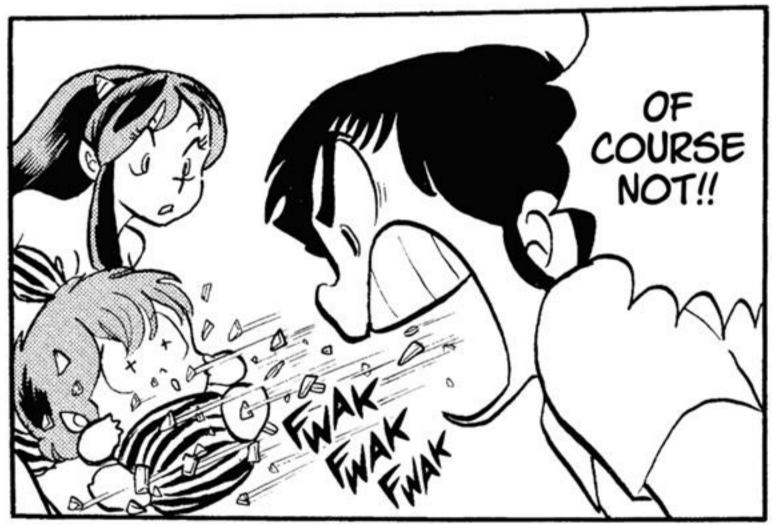




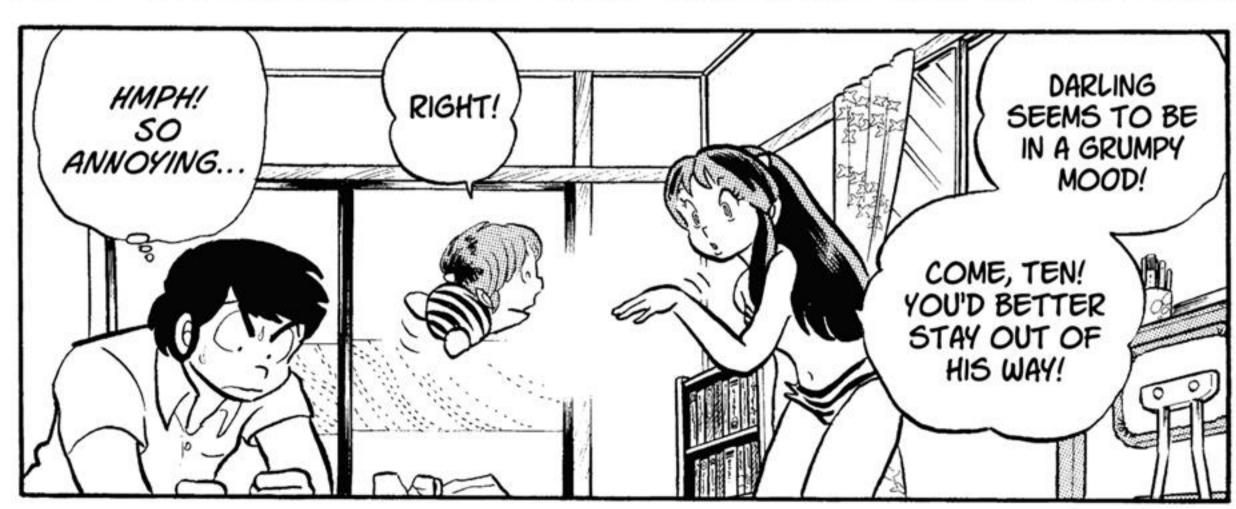


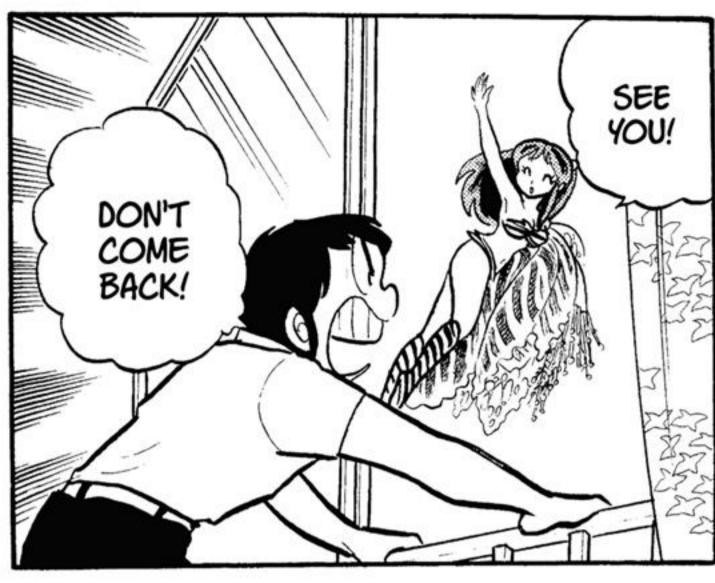
















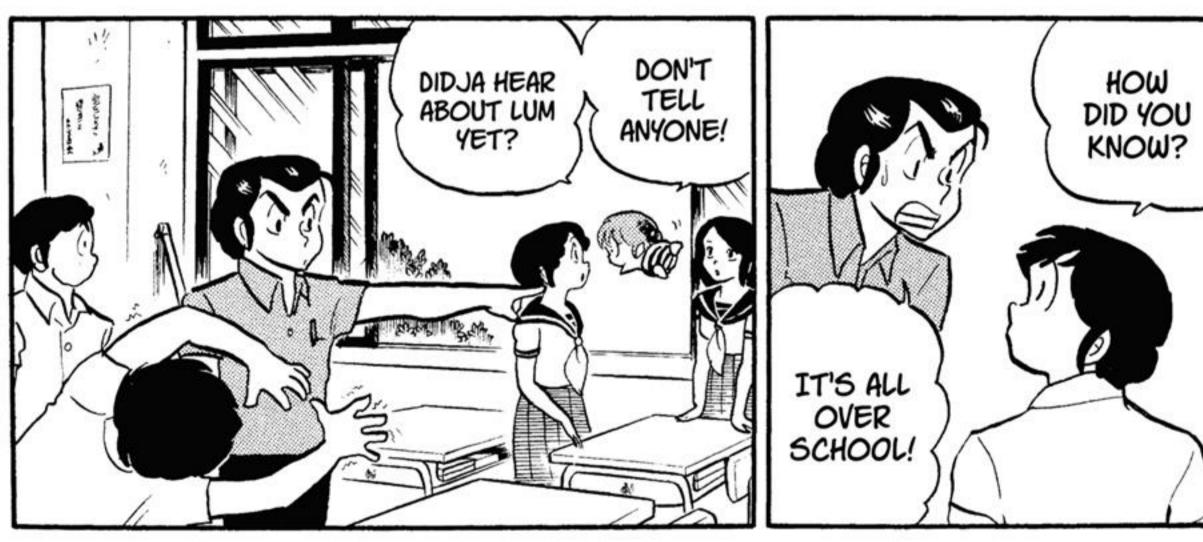






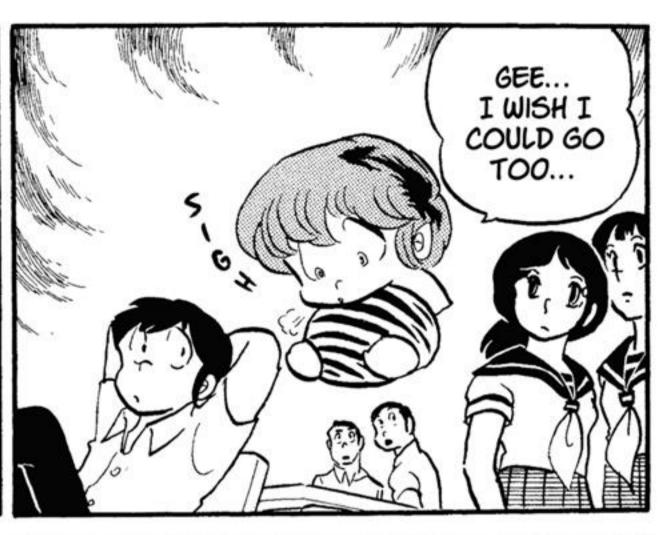














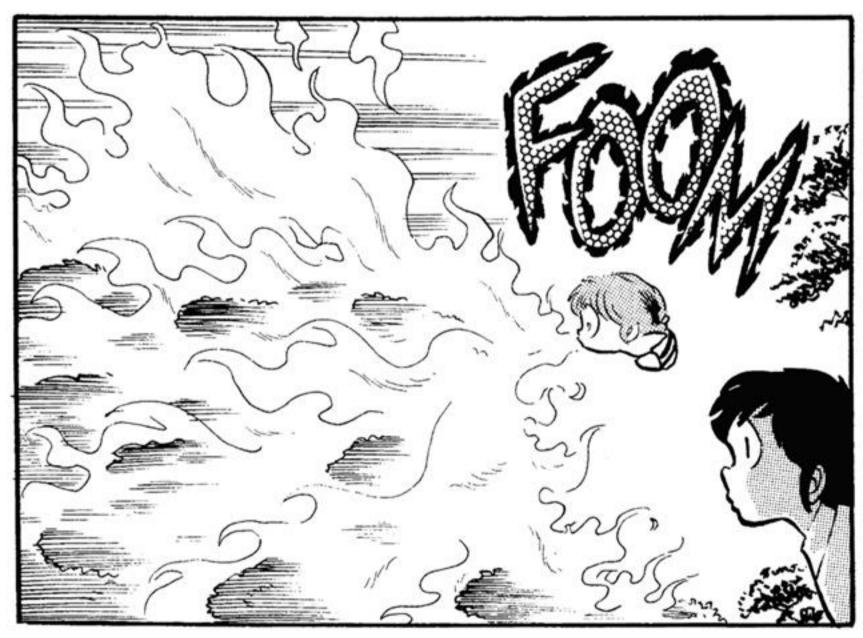




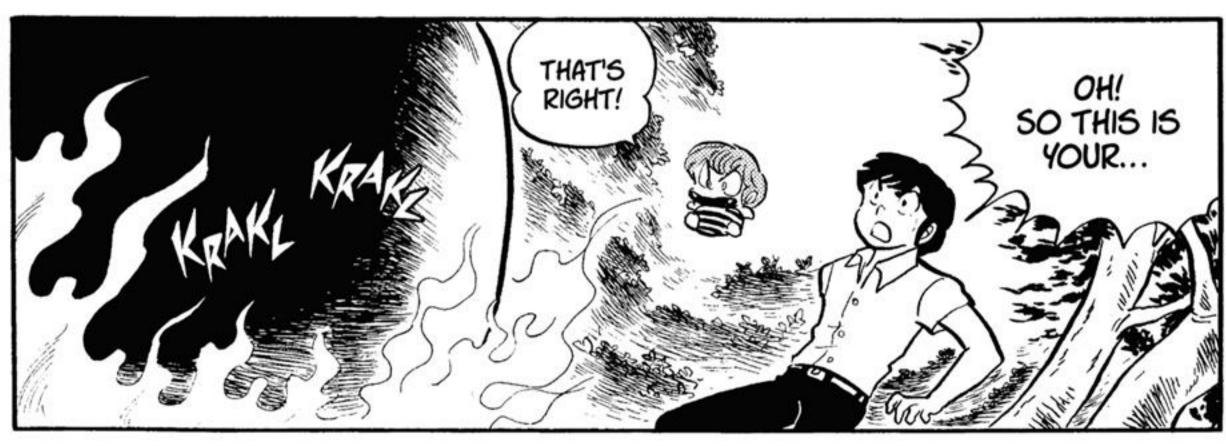




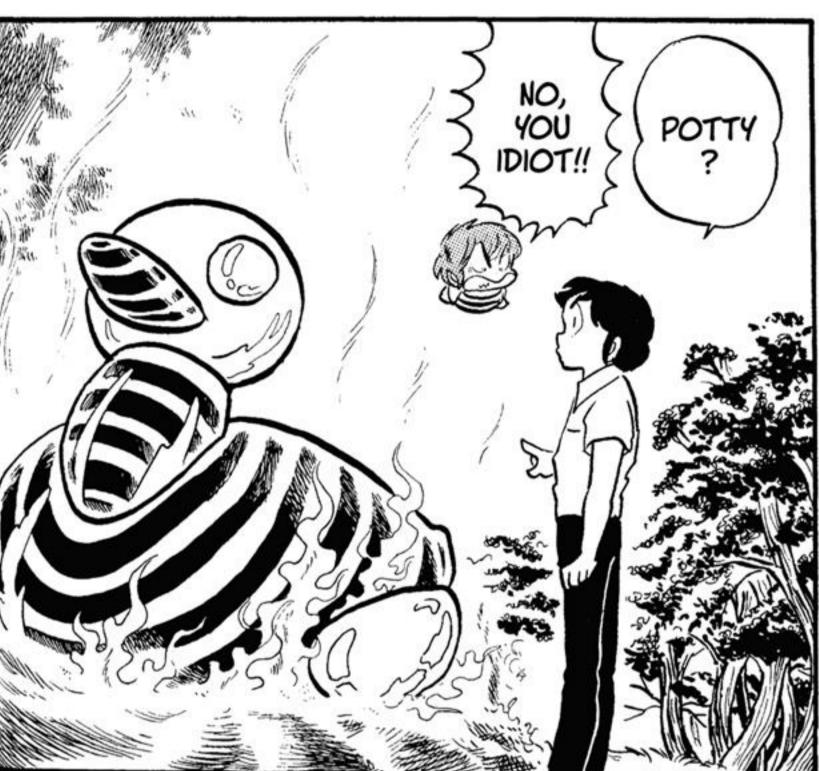


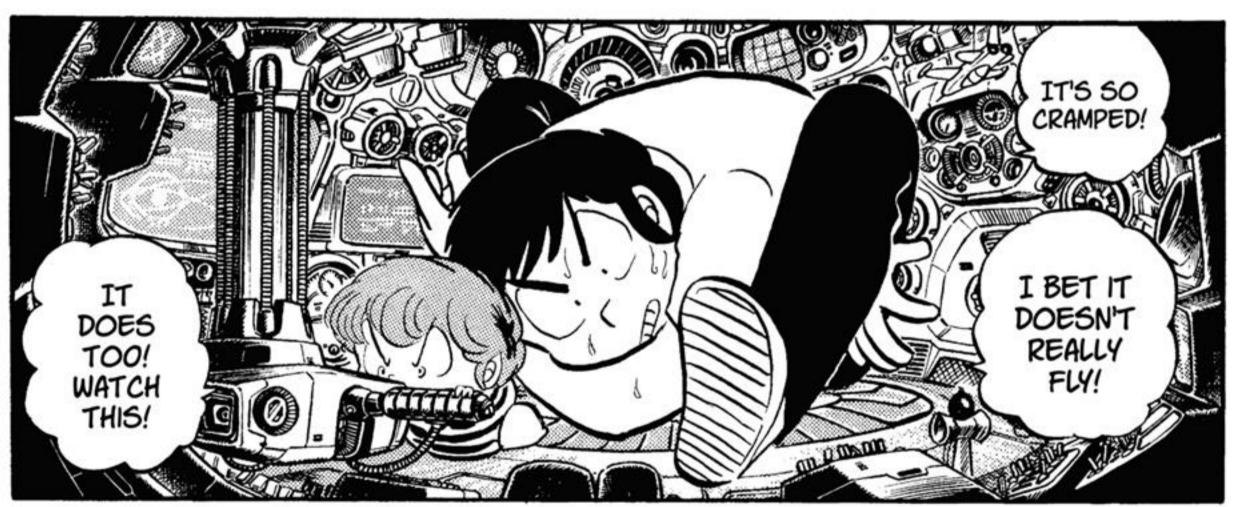


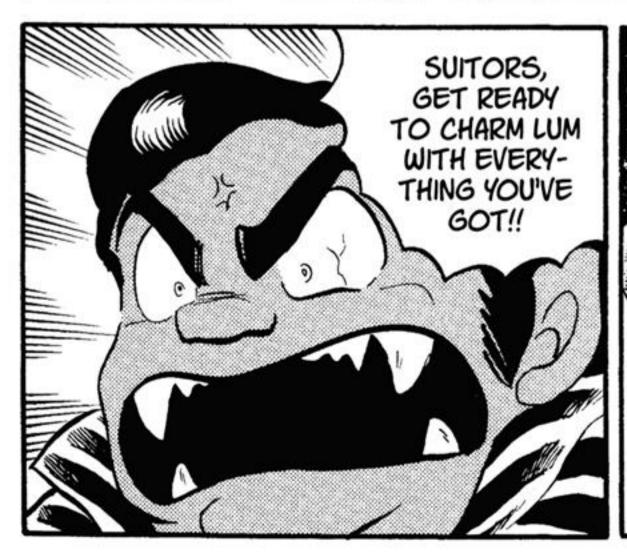






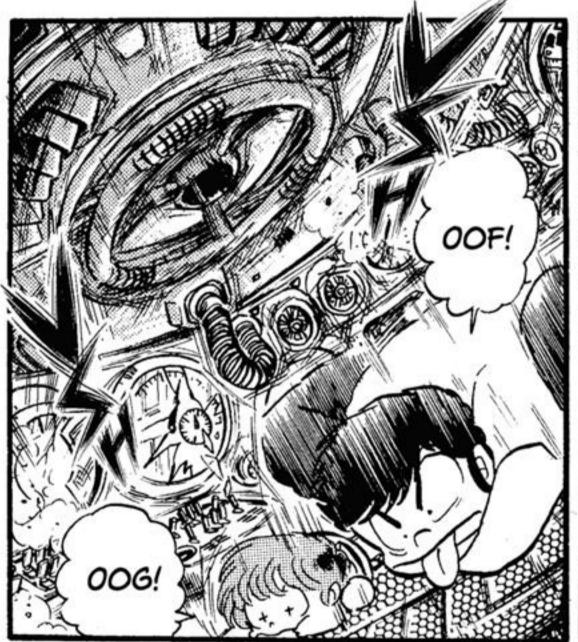










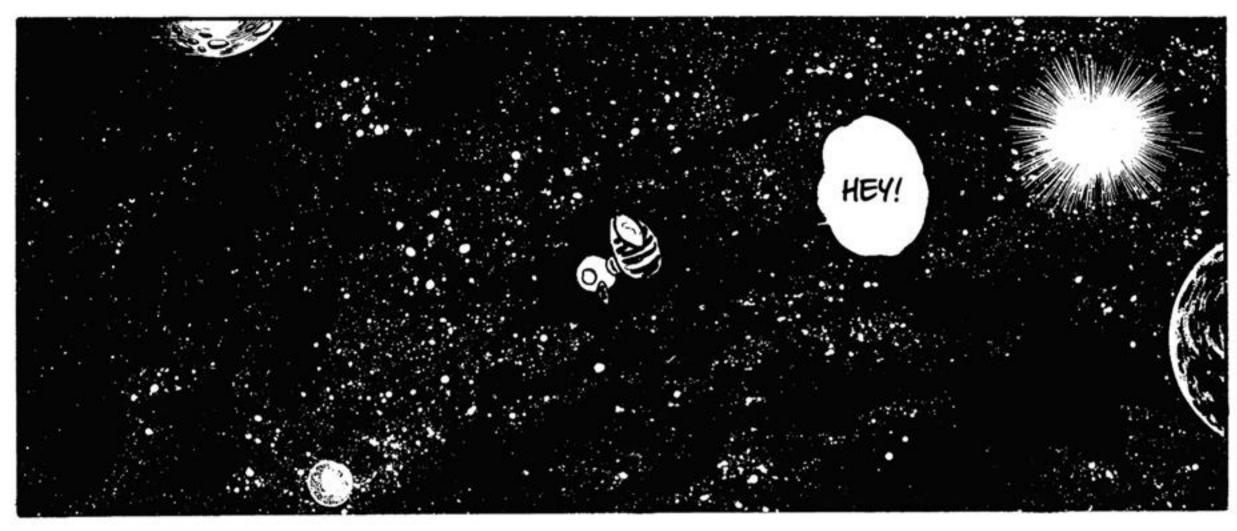






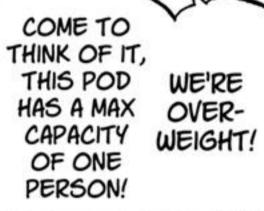


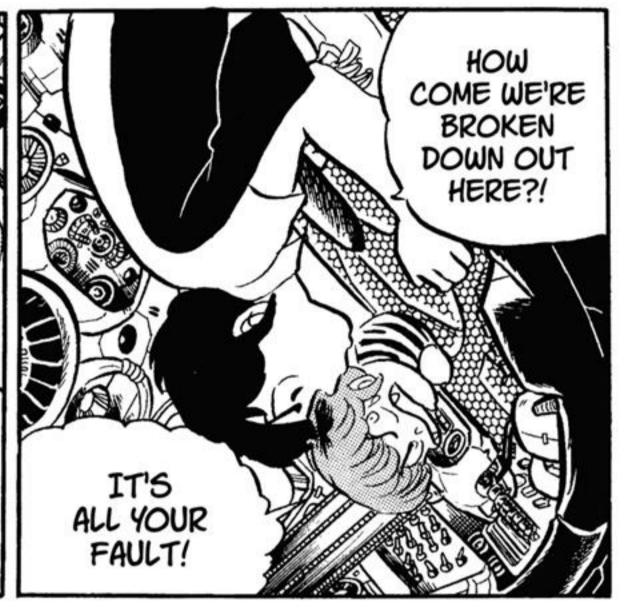


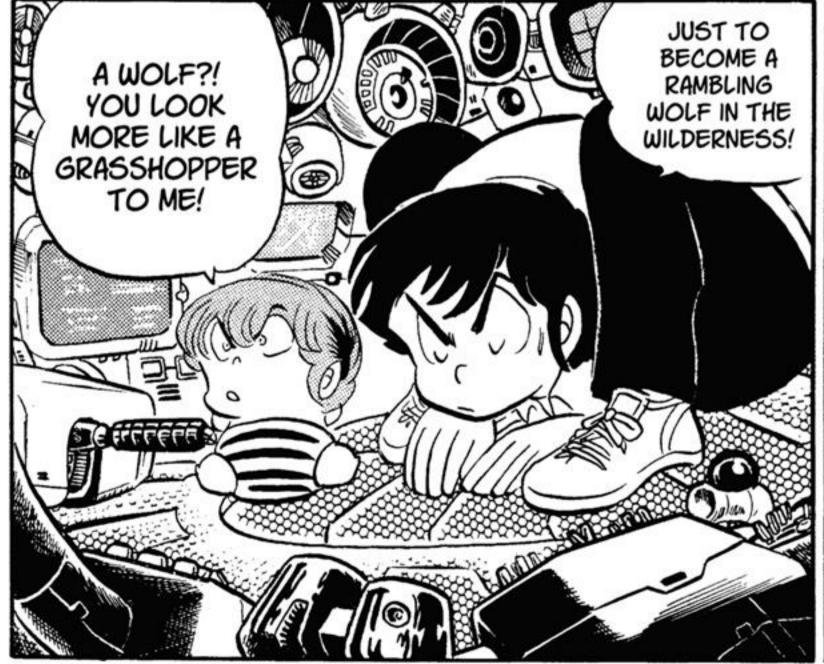








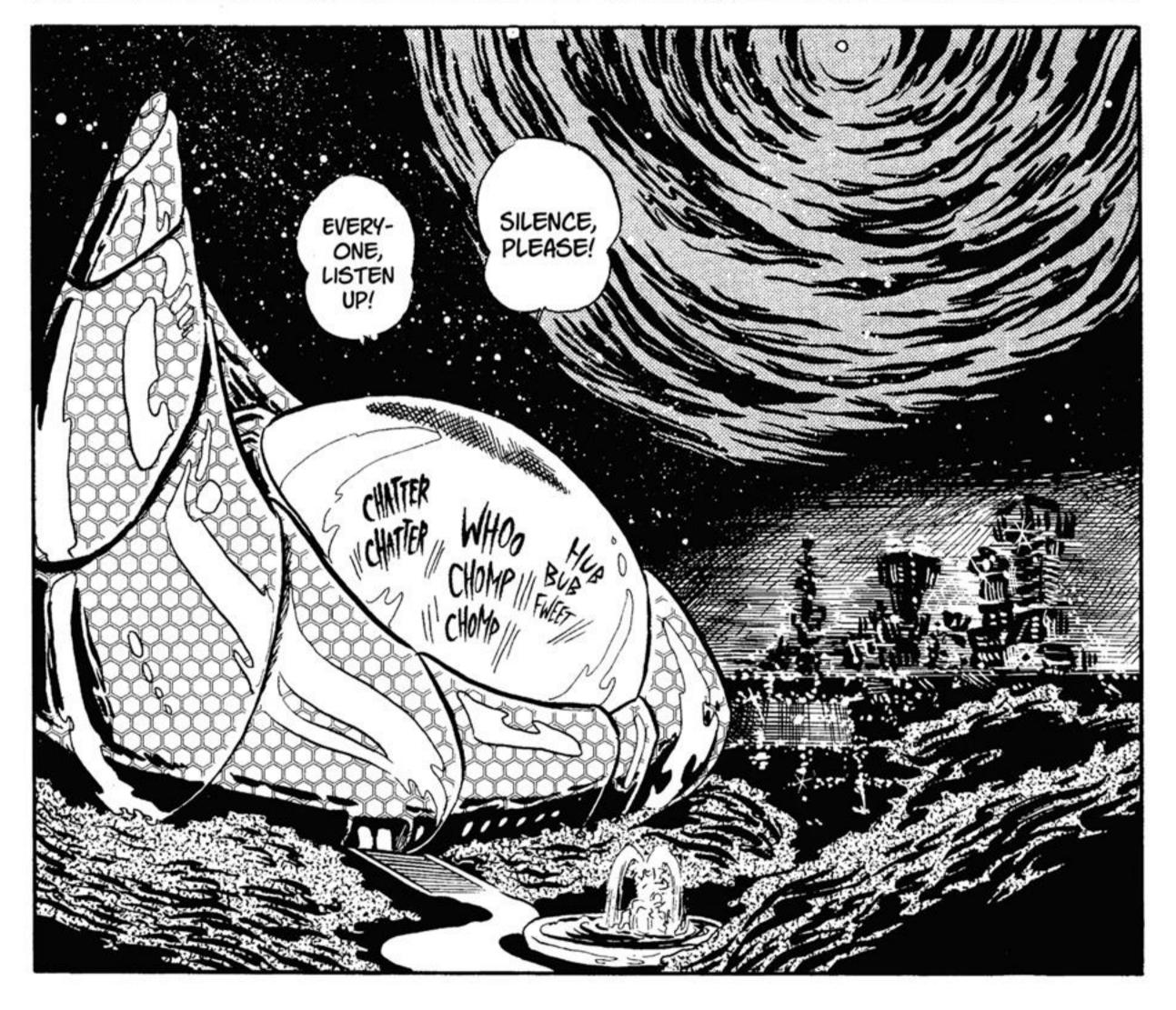




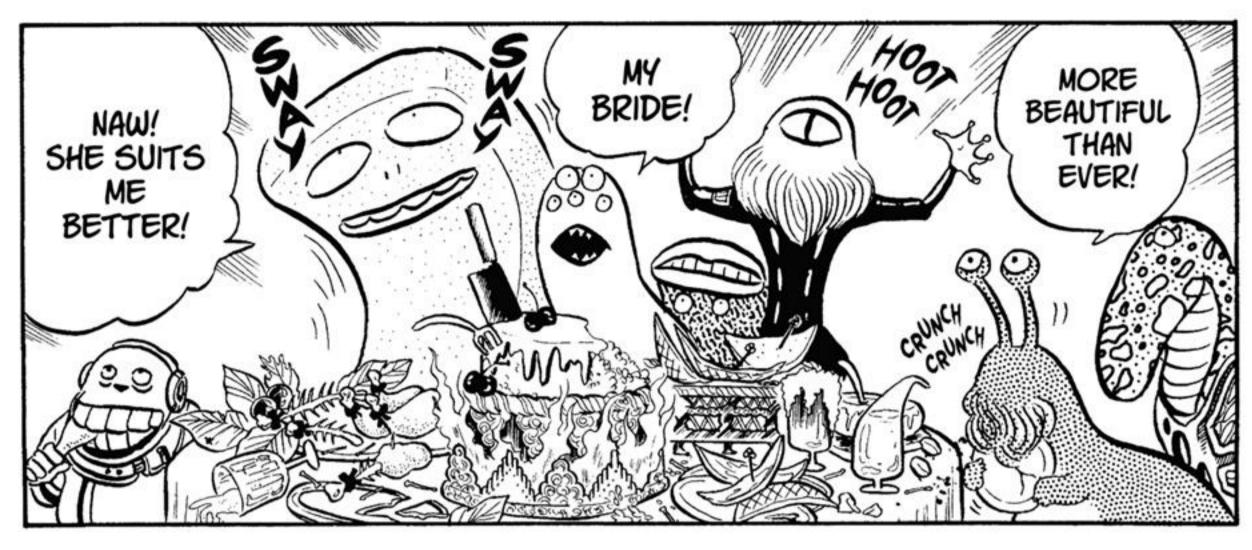






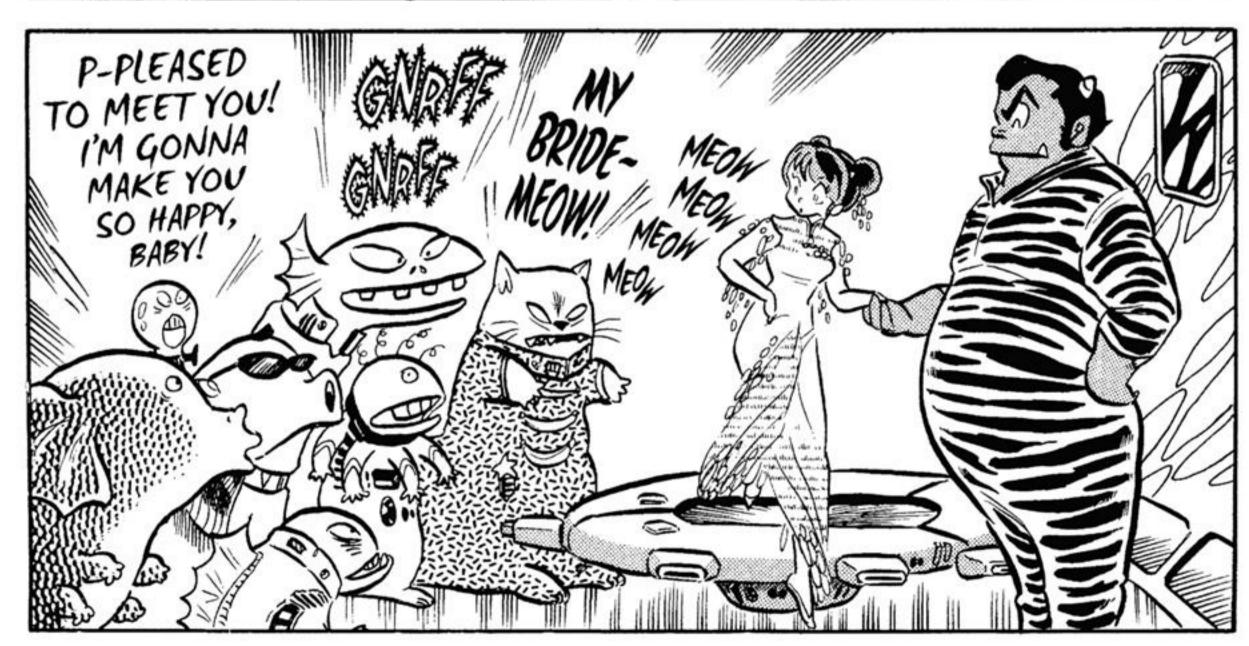












































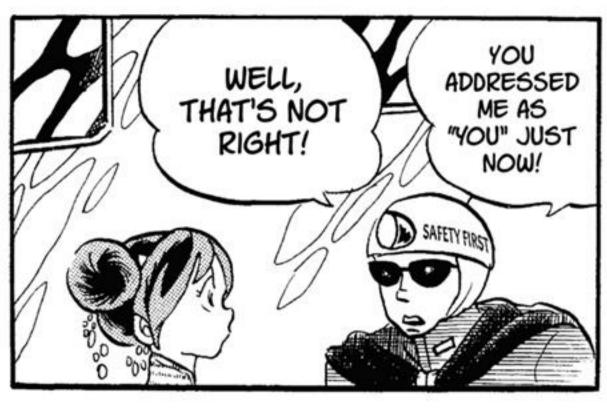








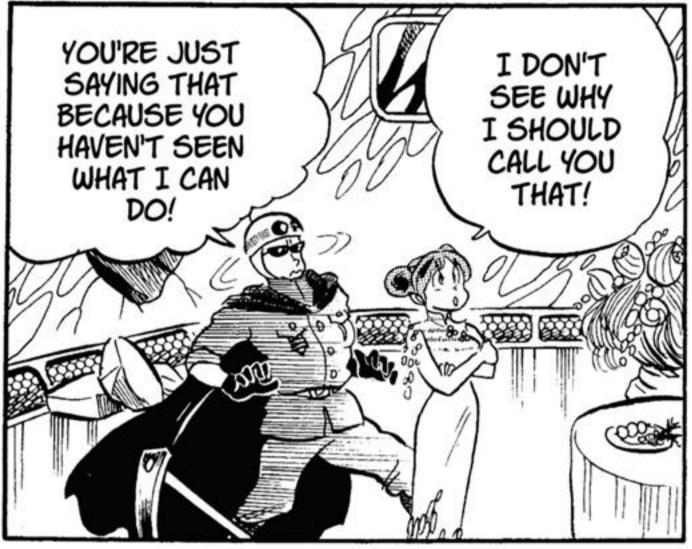
















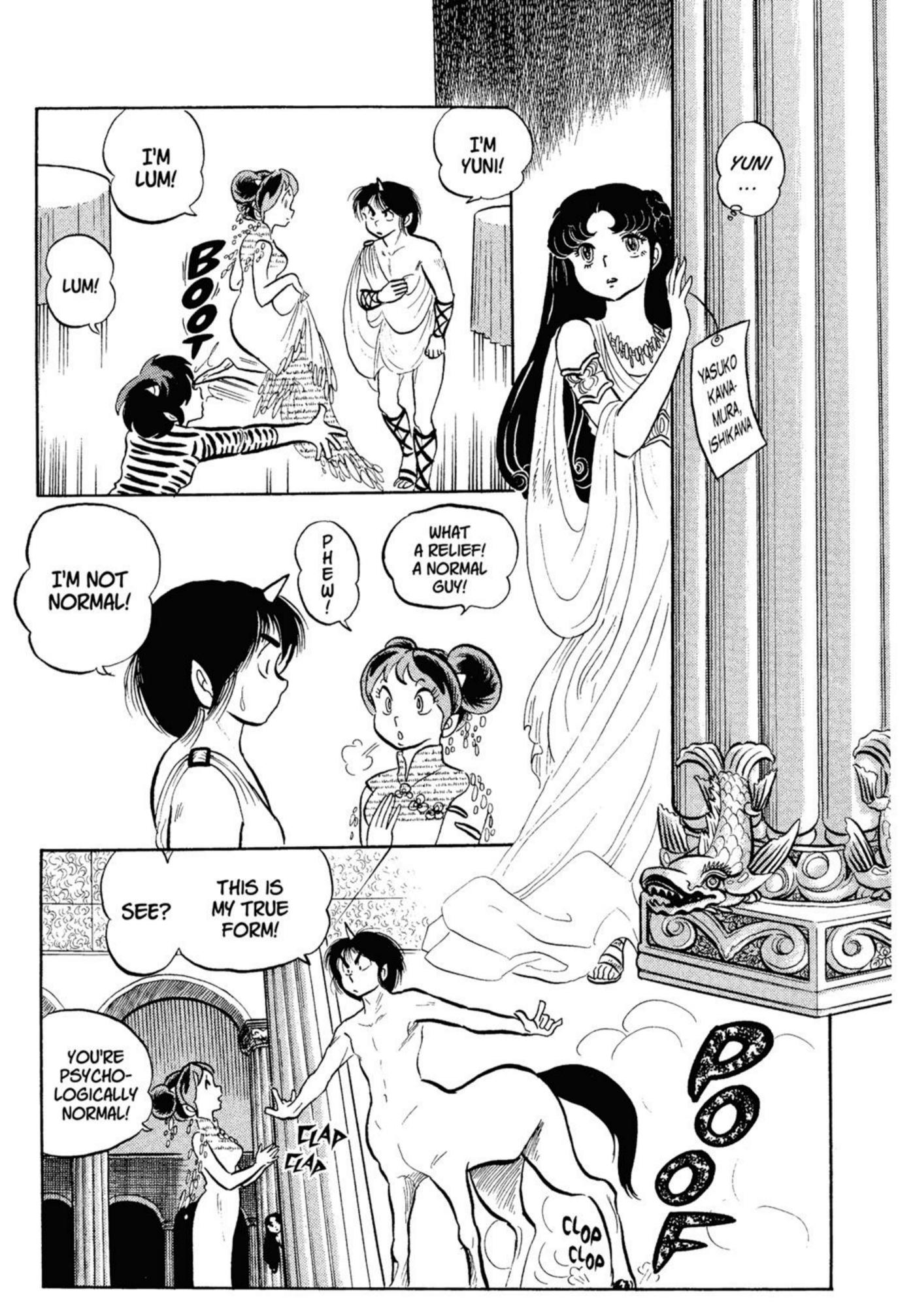








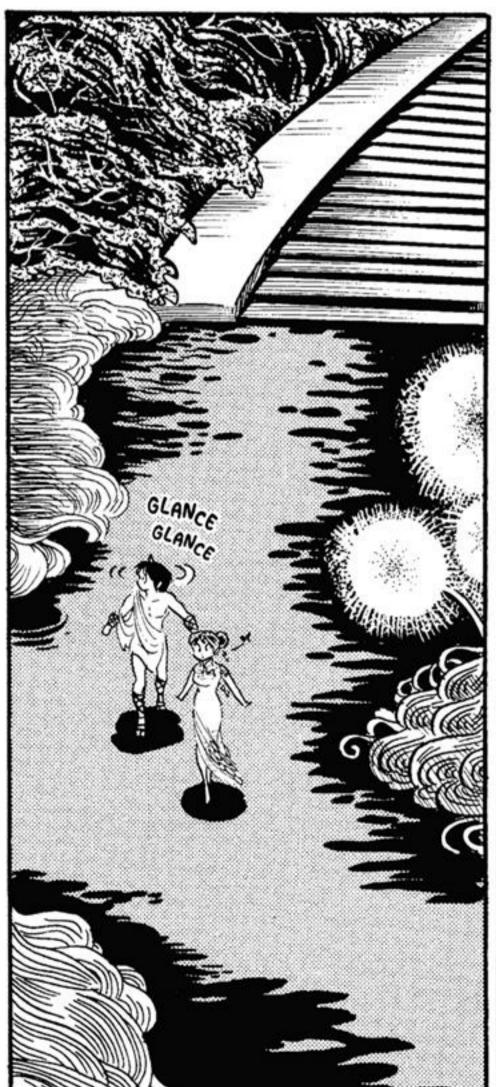




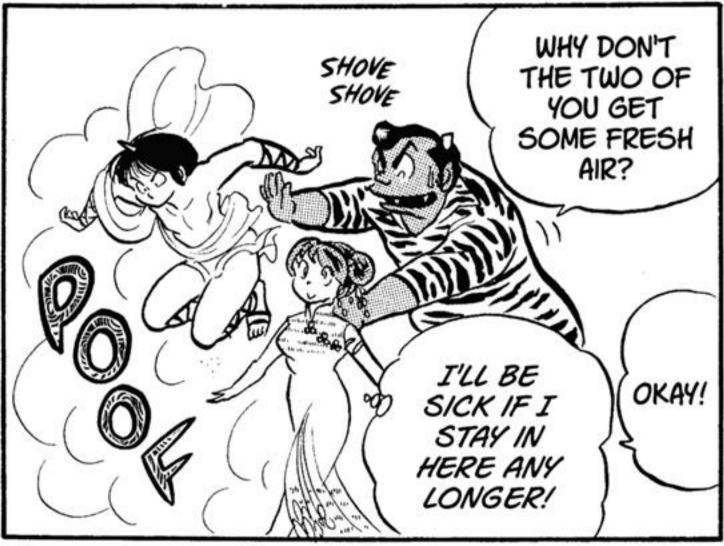


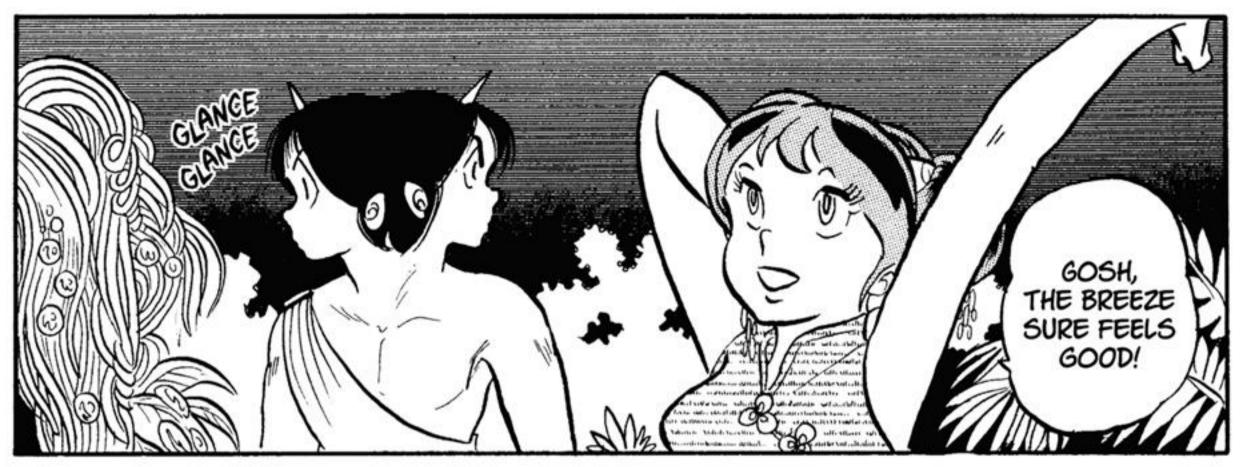








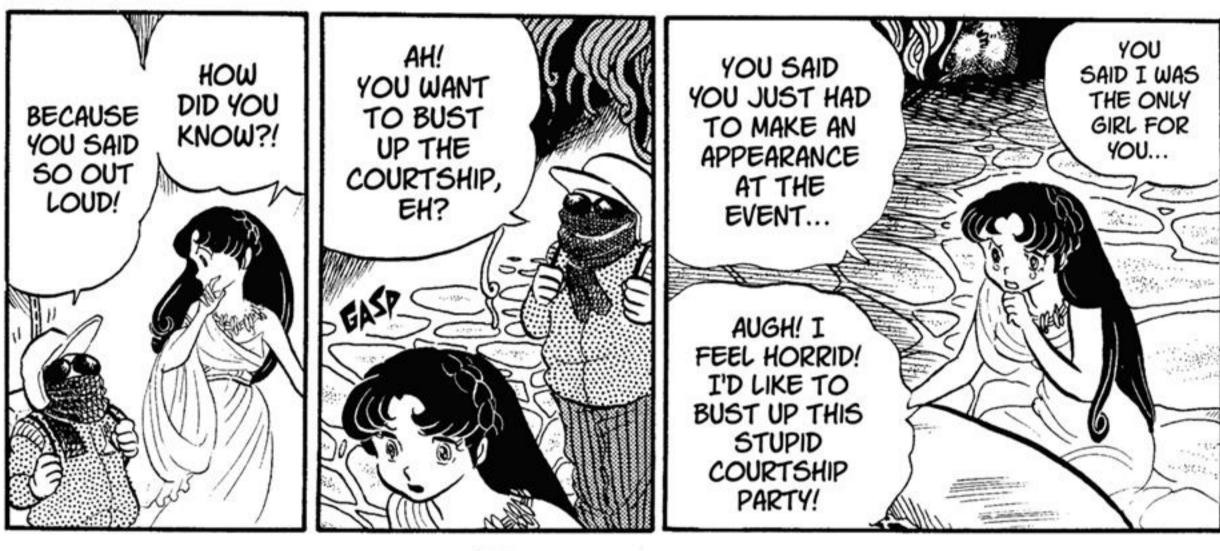














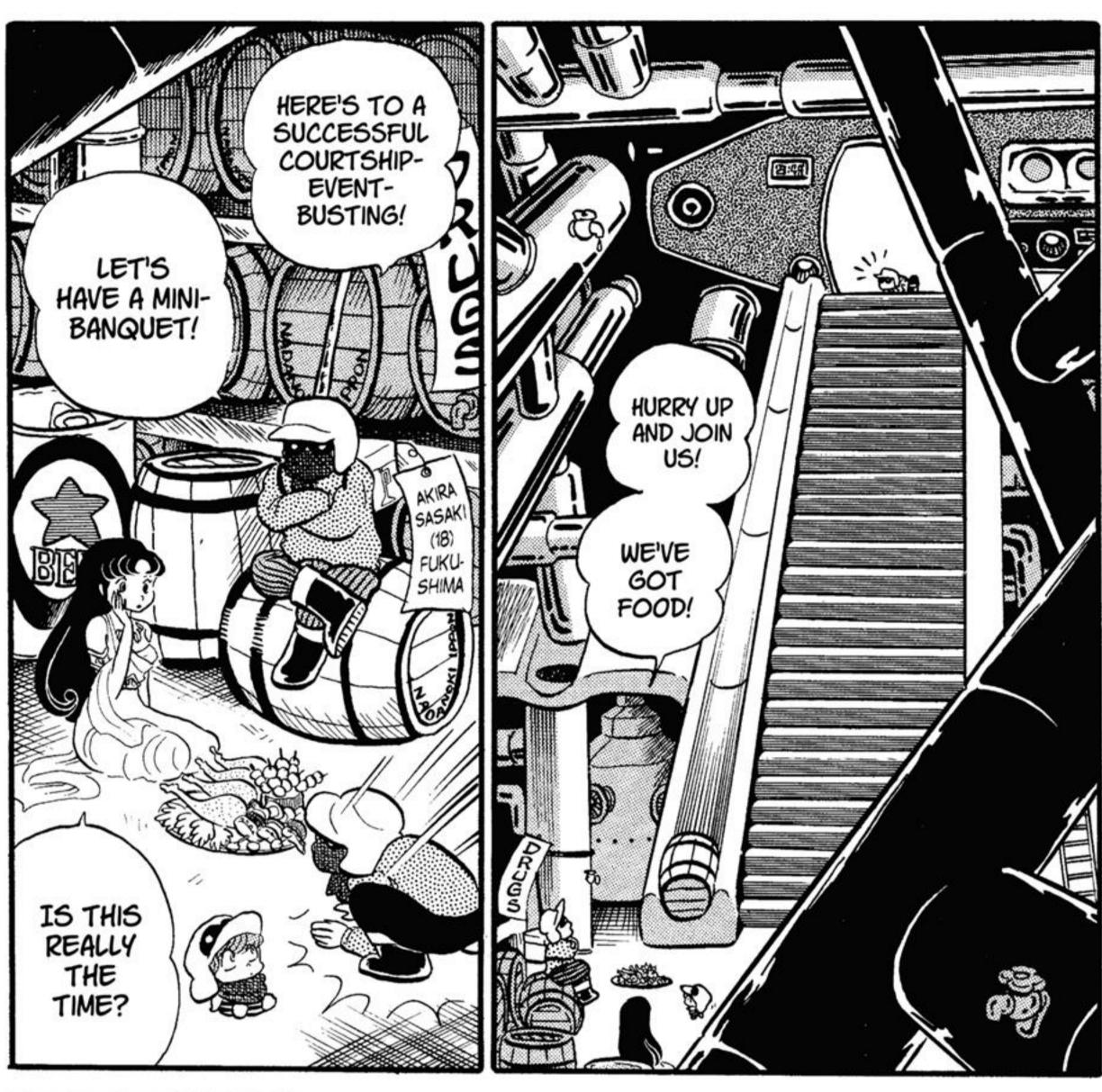


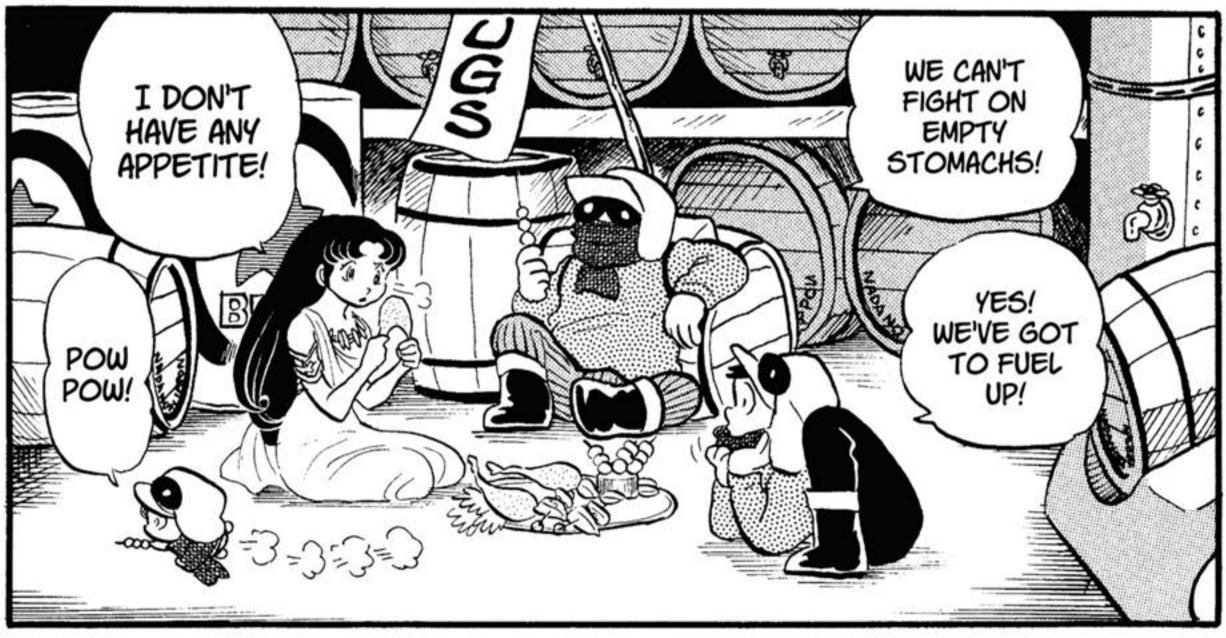


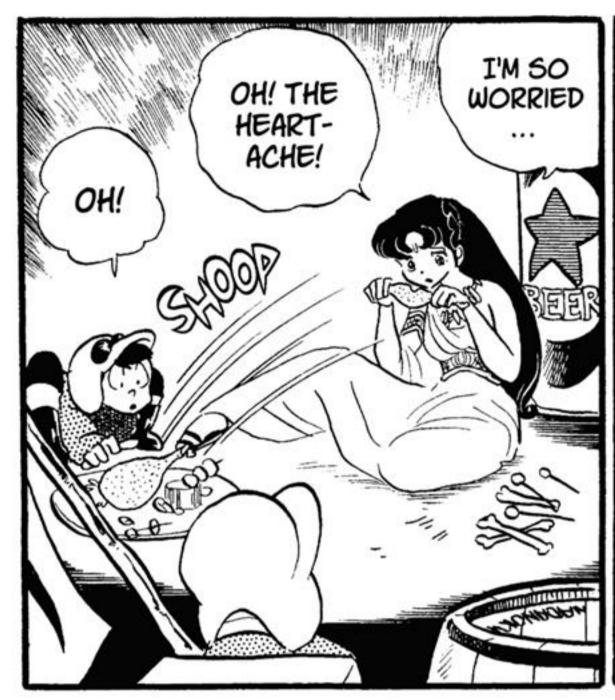


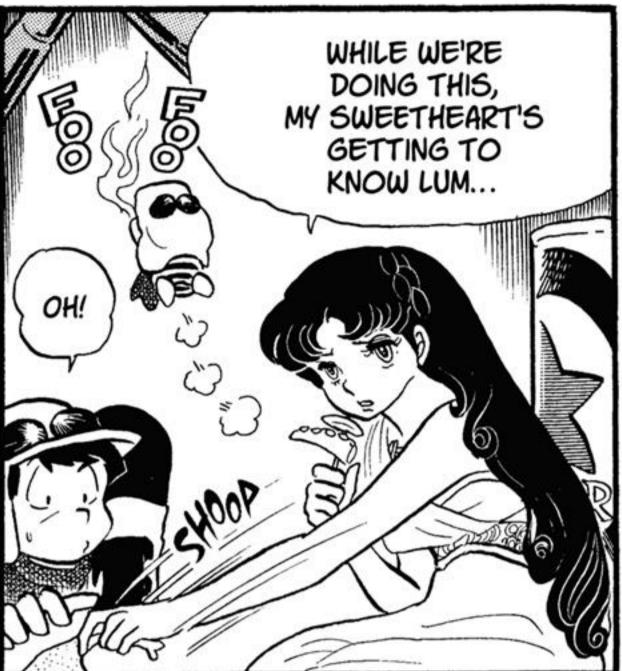


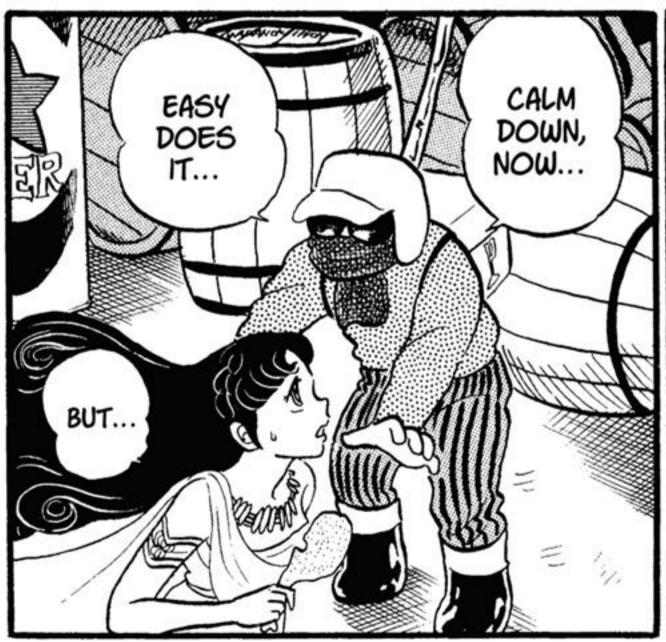


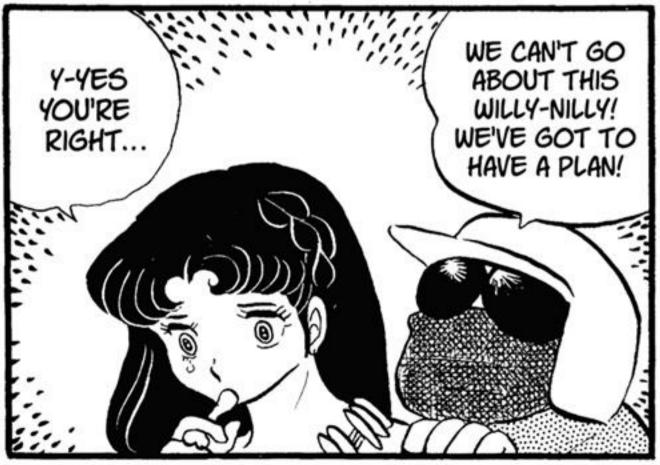








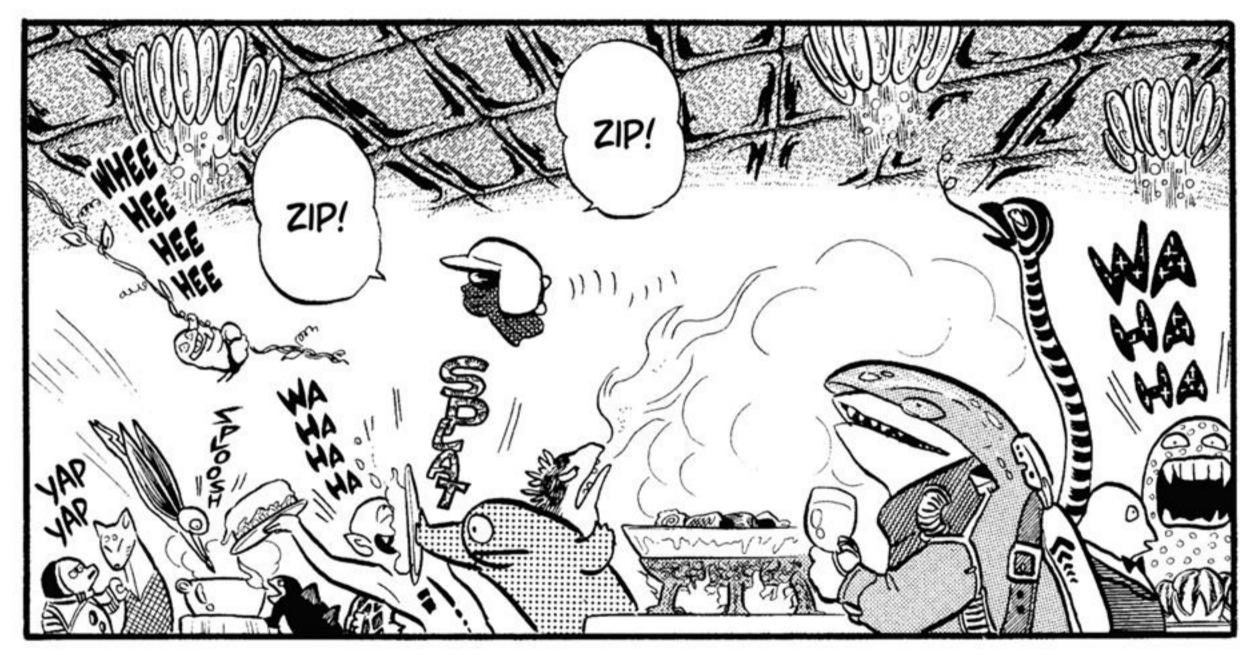




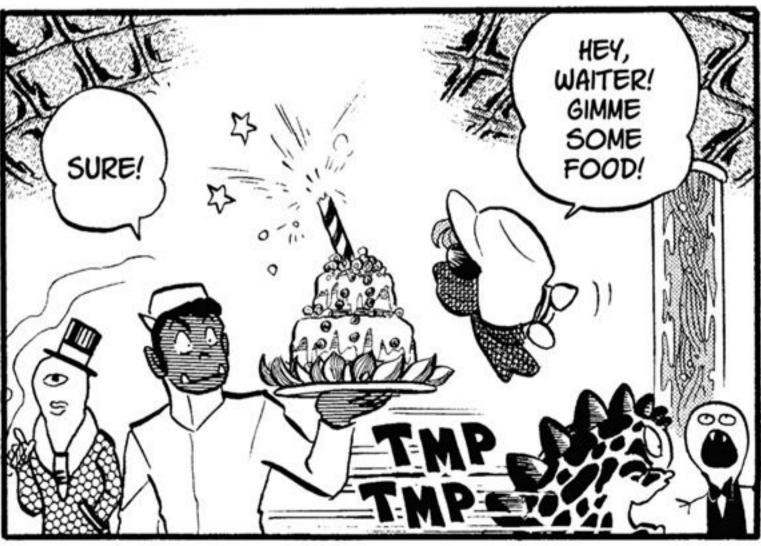


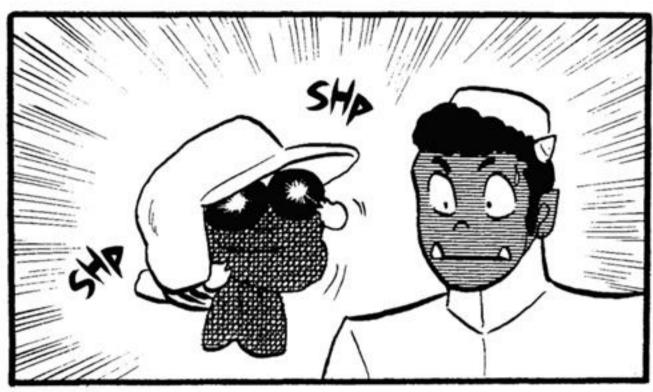








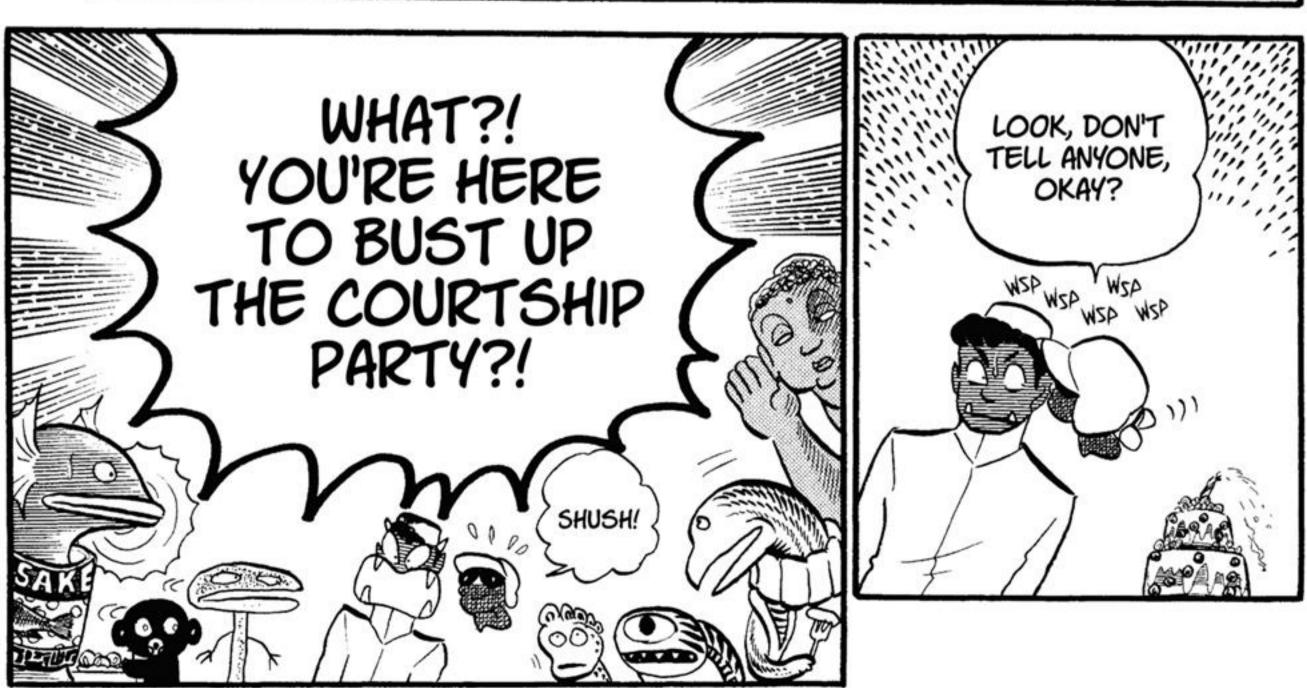




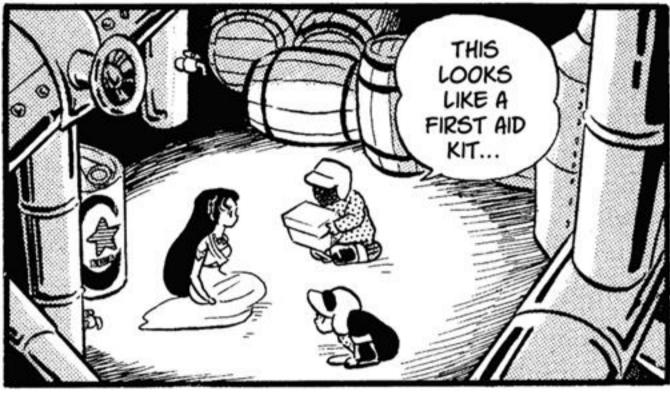


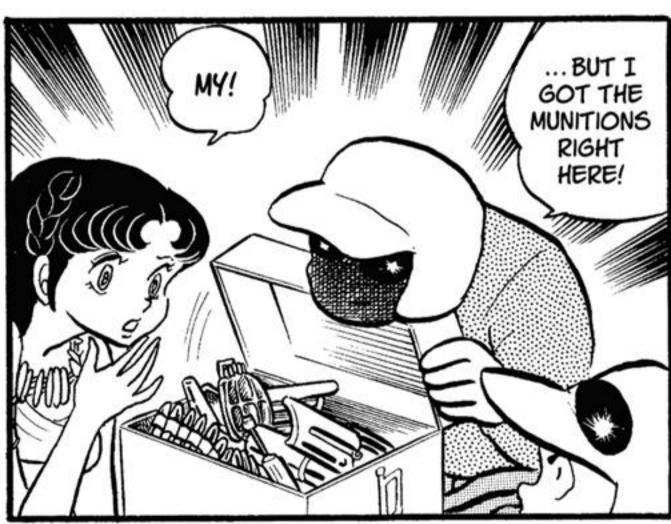




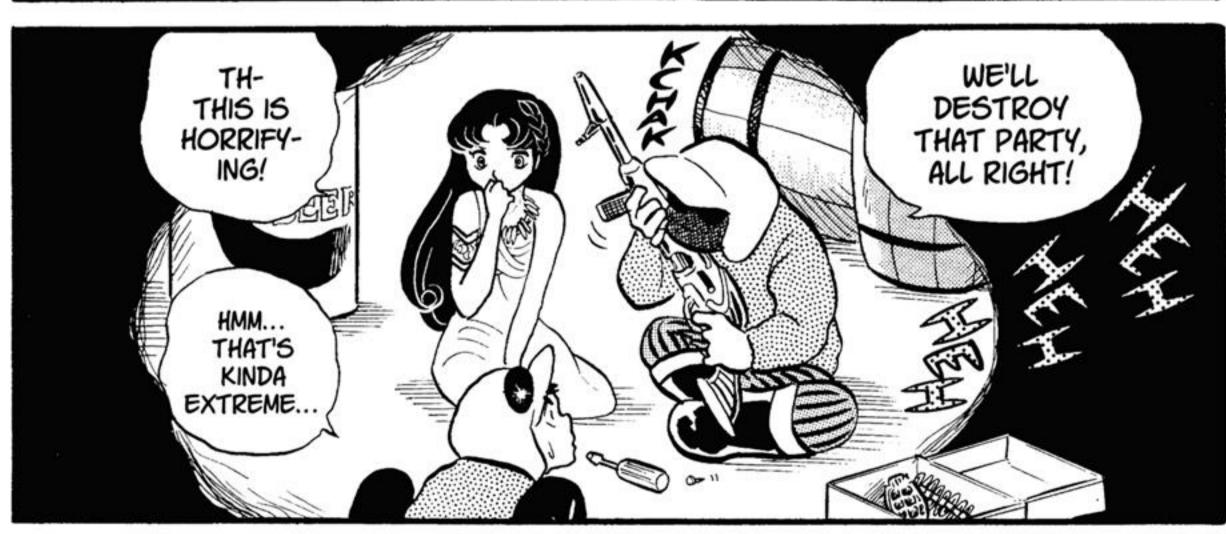


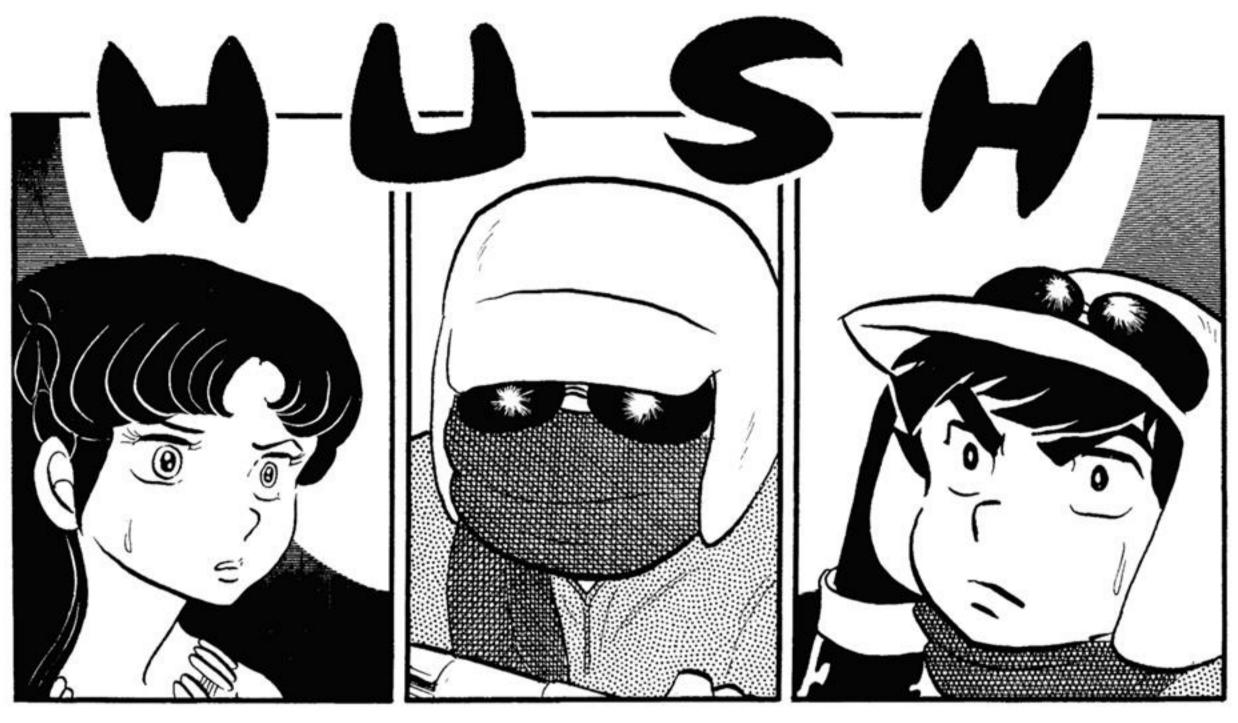


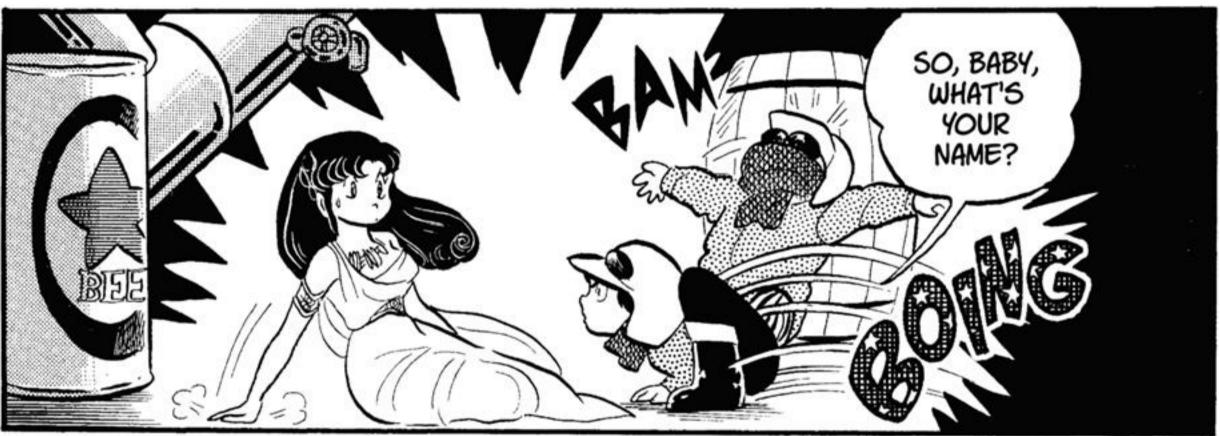




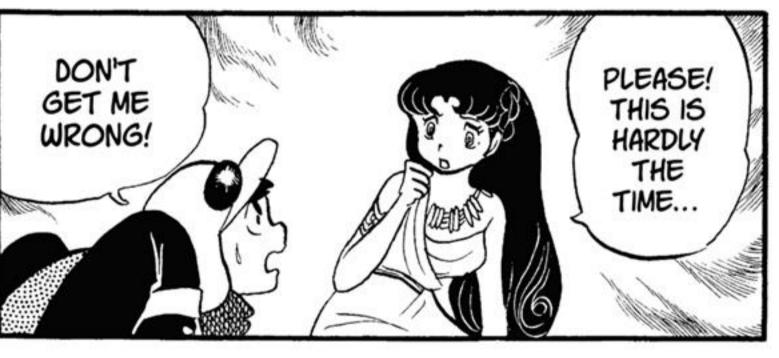






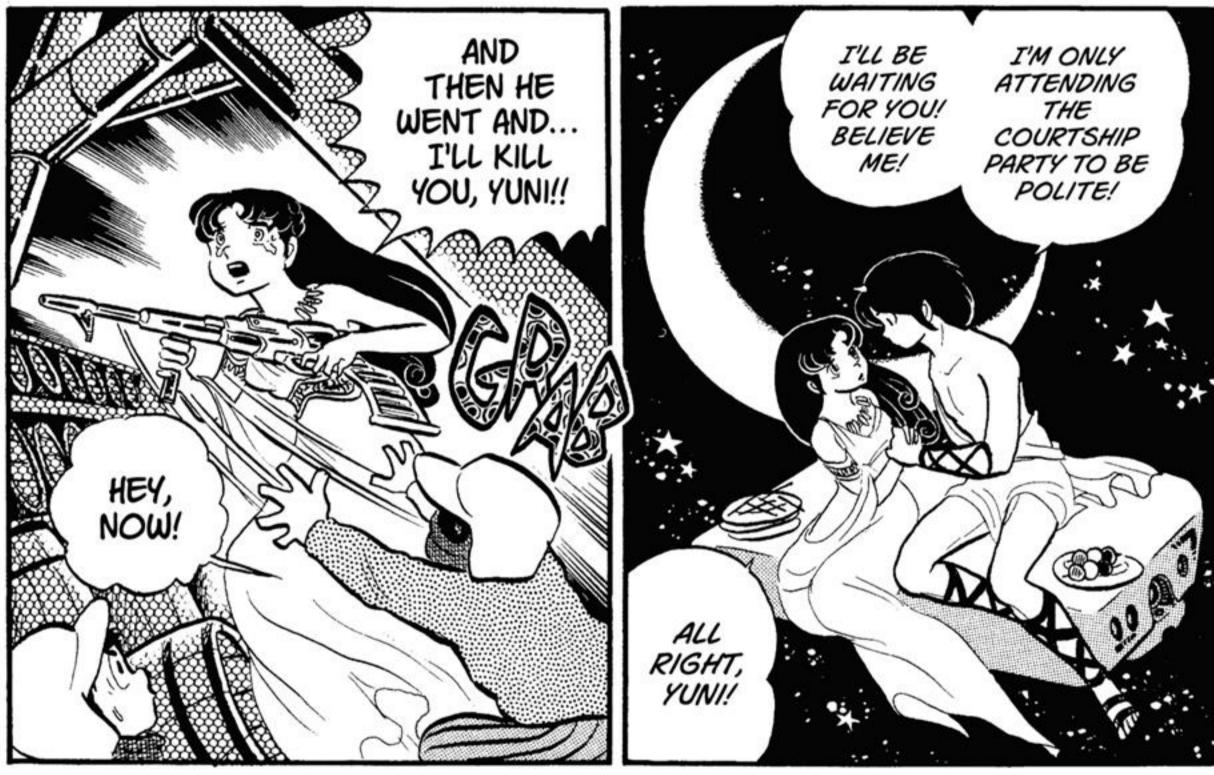




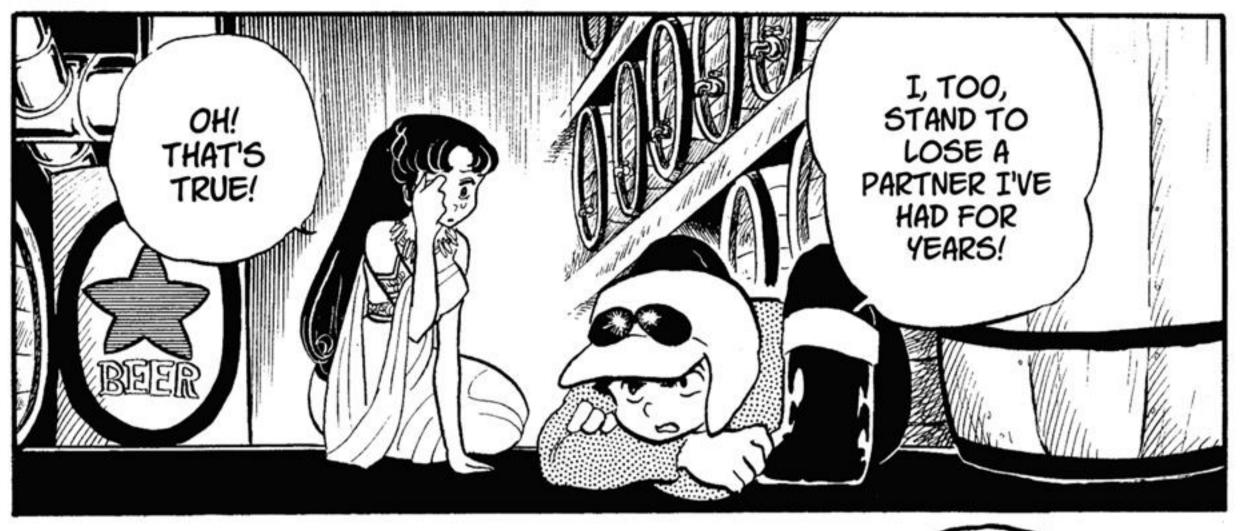




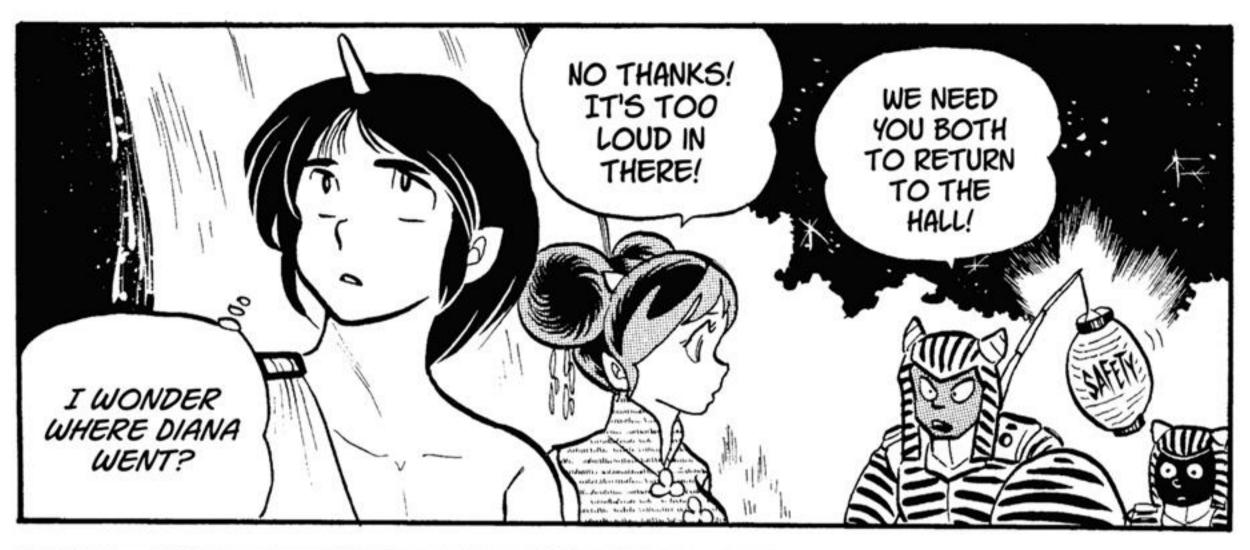


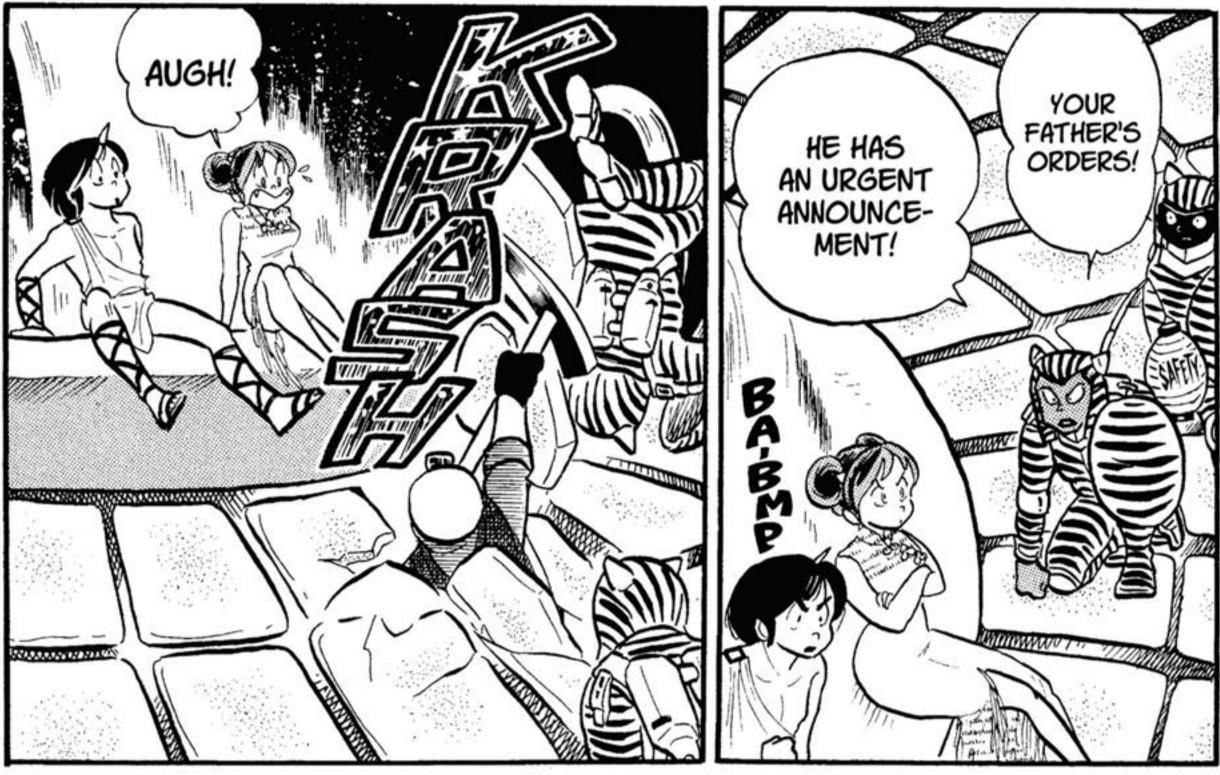


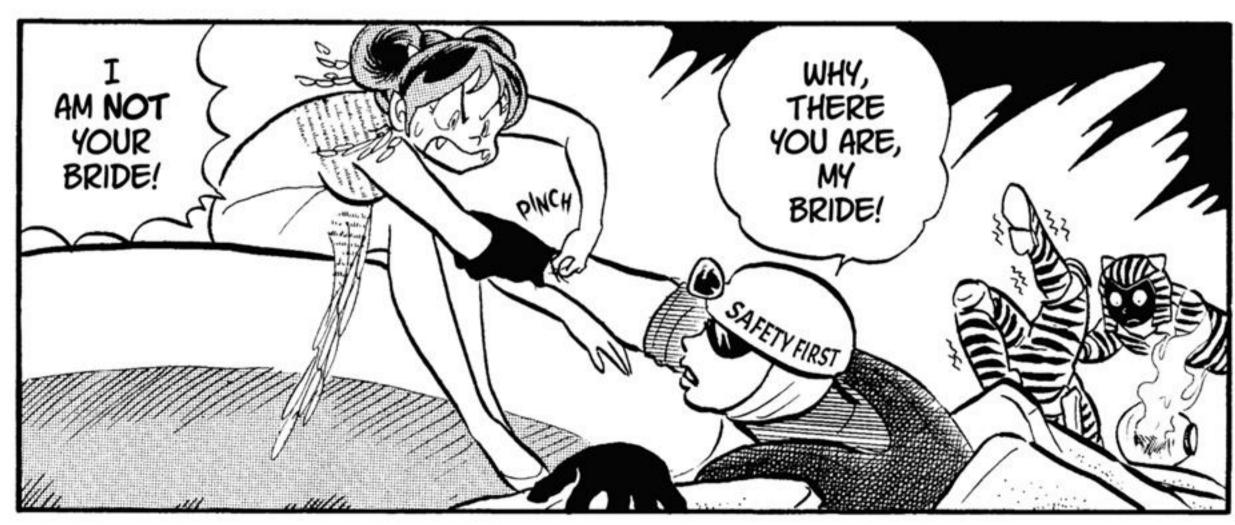




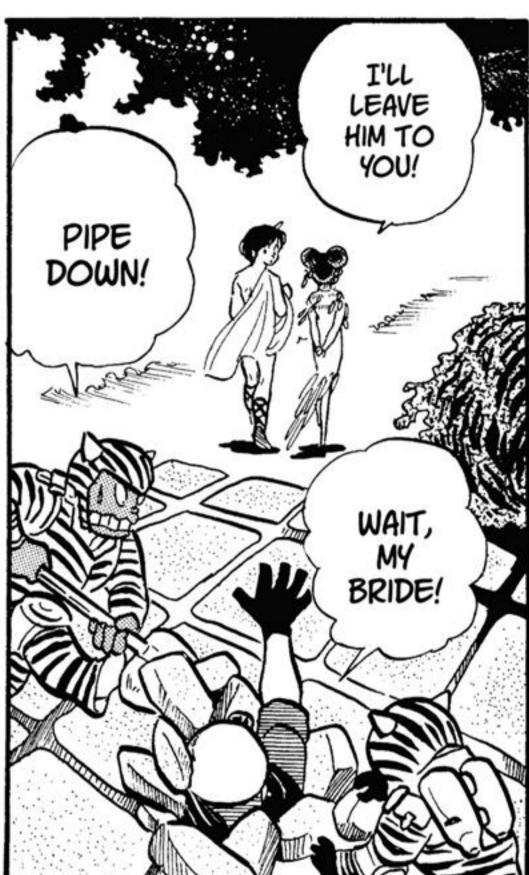


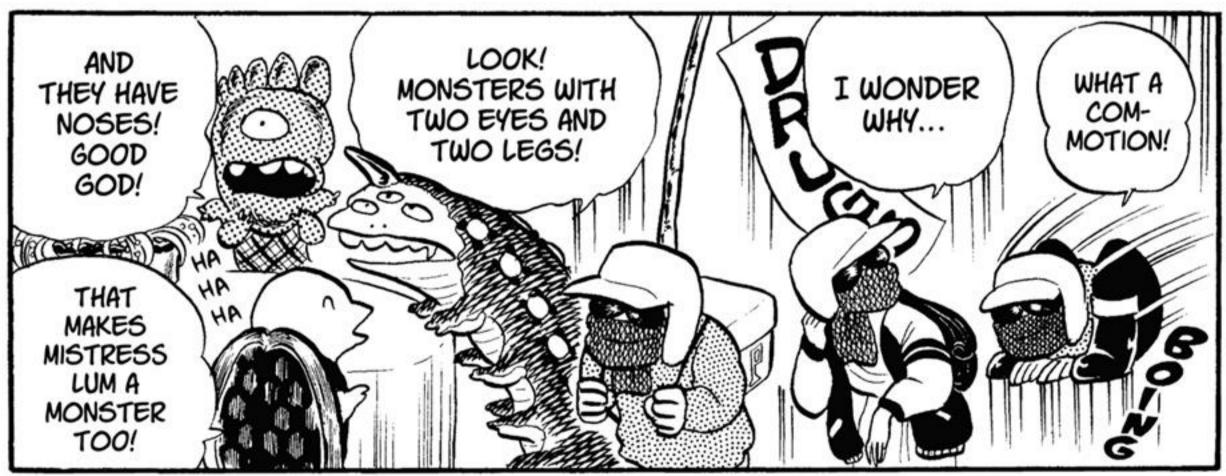


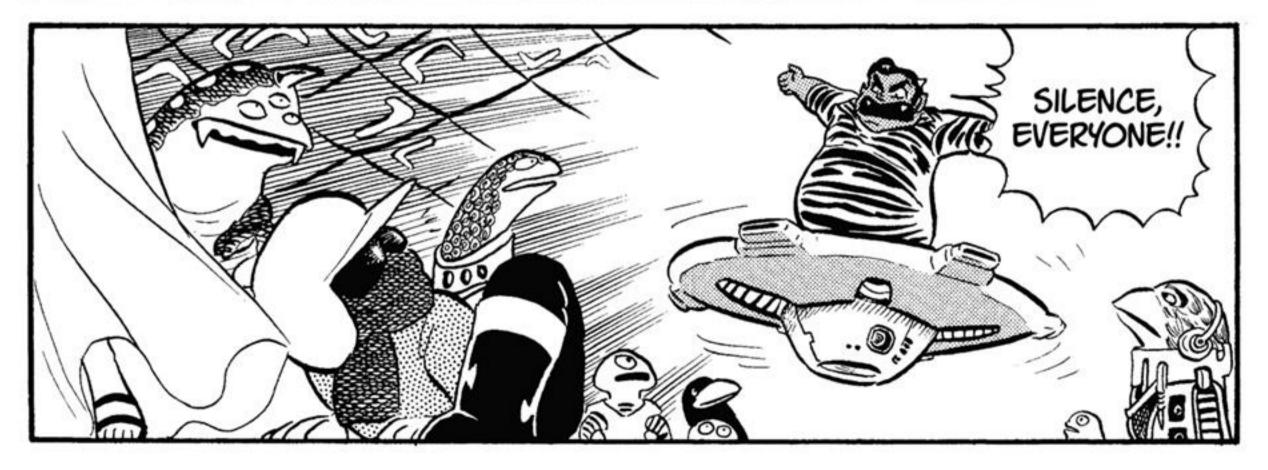




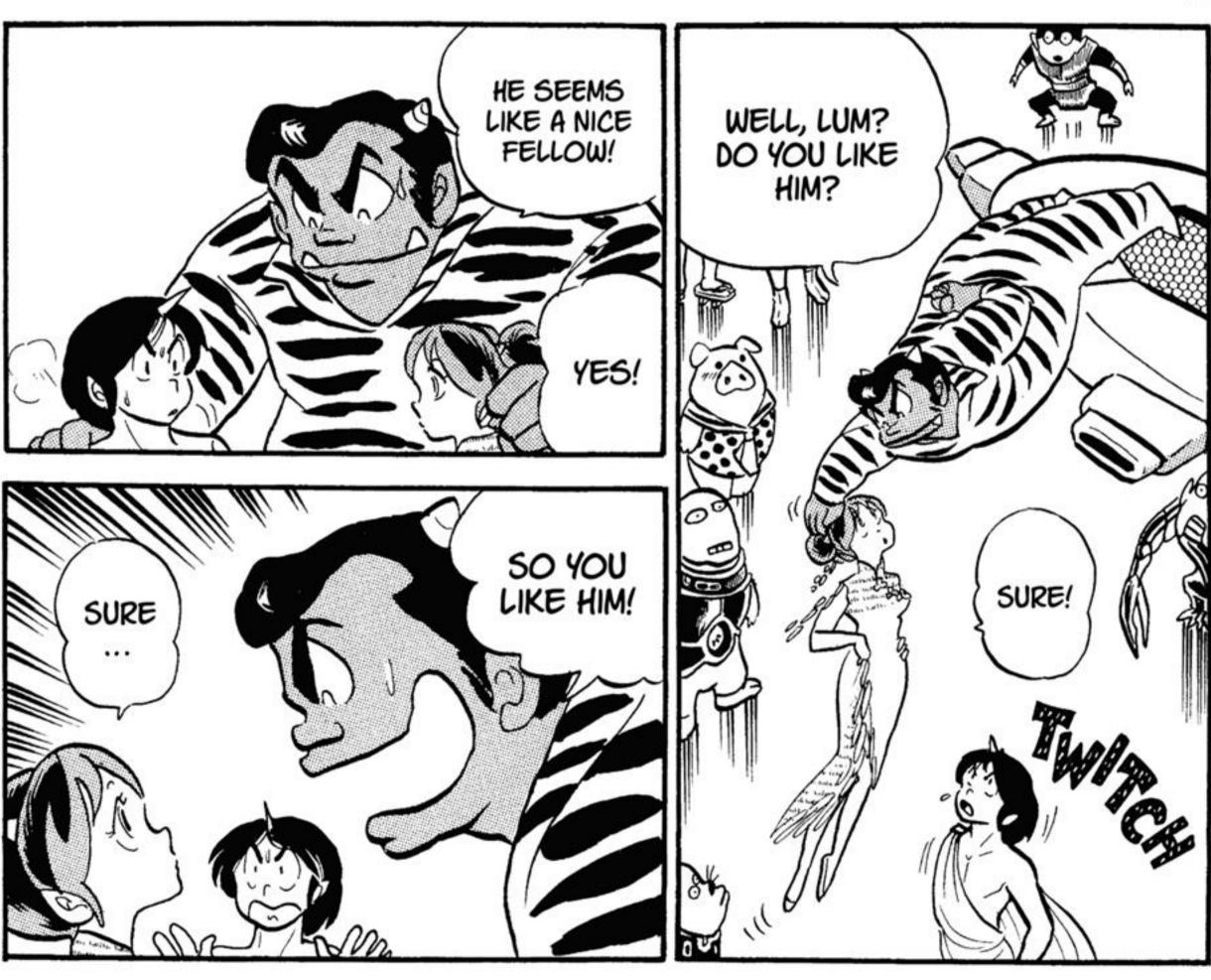




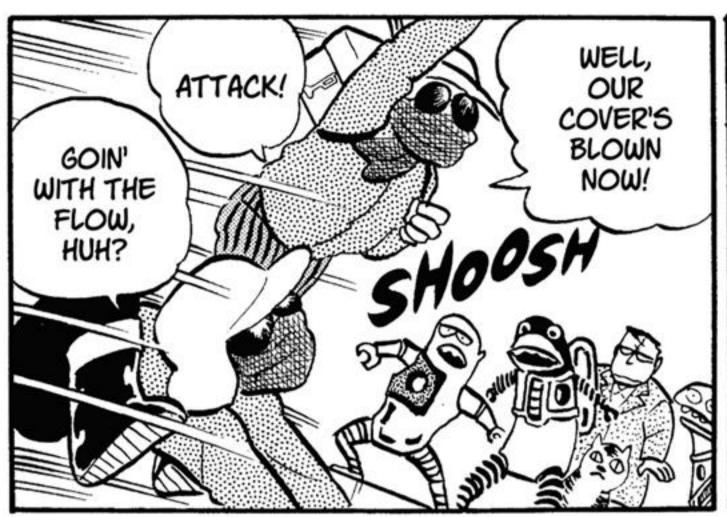




















CHAPTER 10: DERANGED MARRIAGE























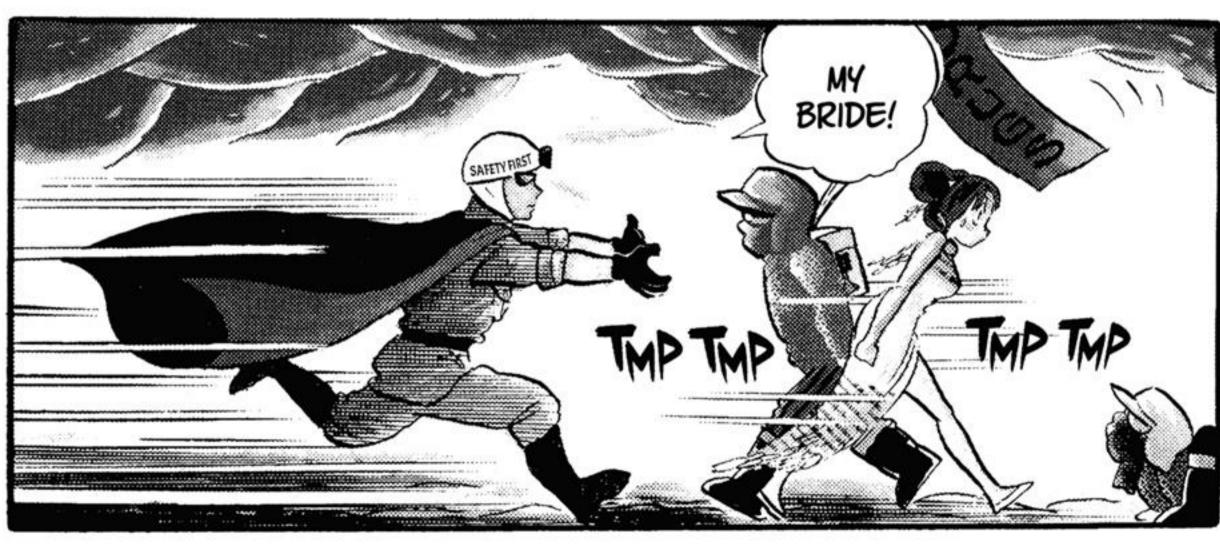




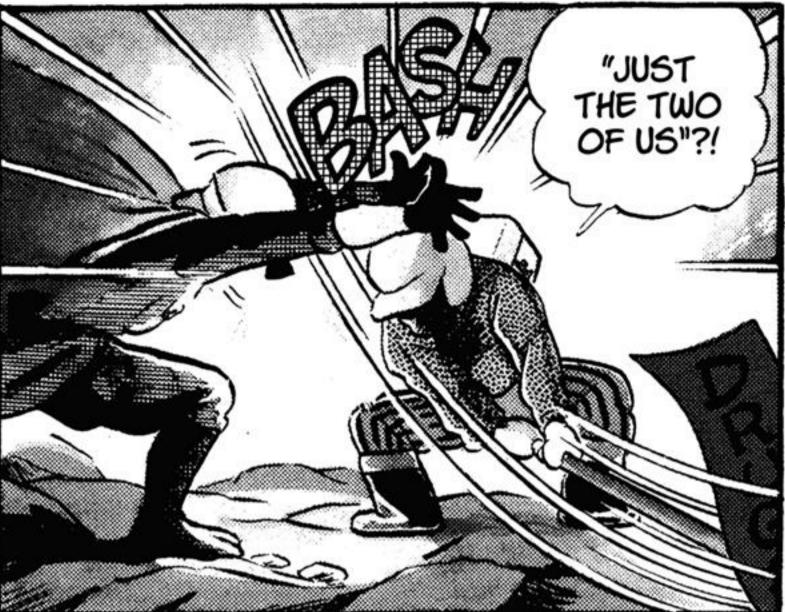














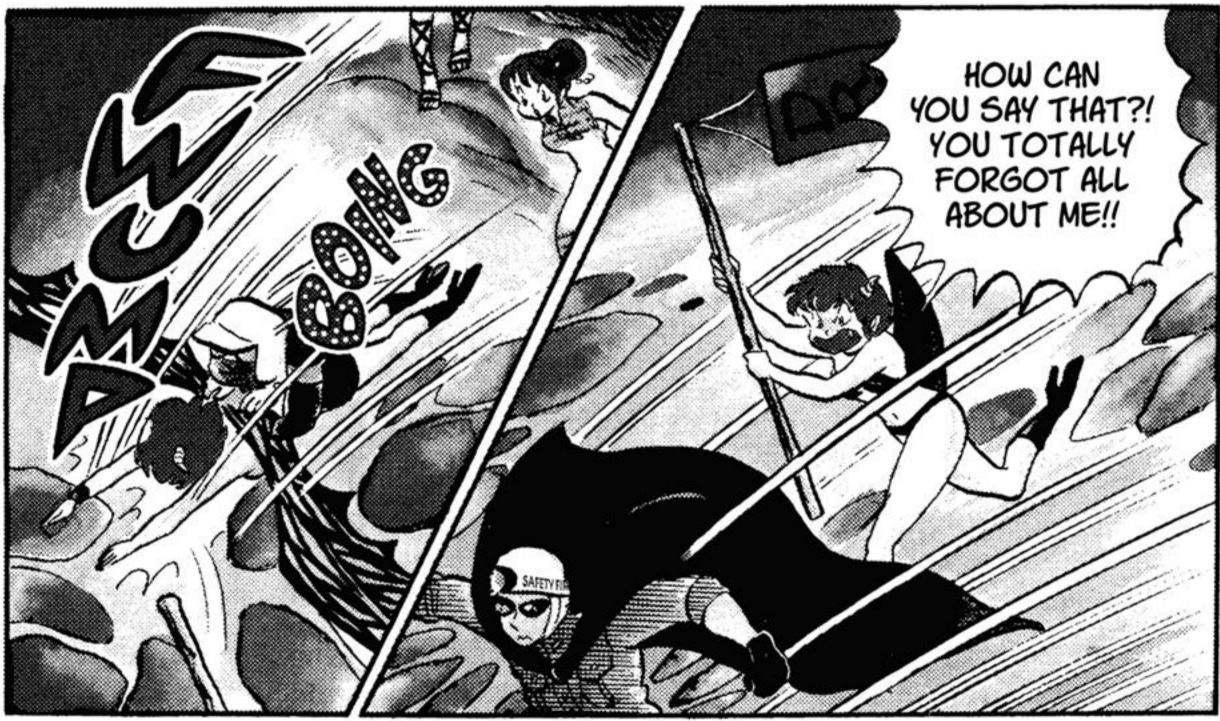




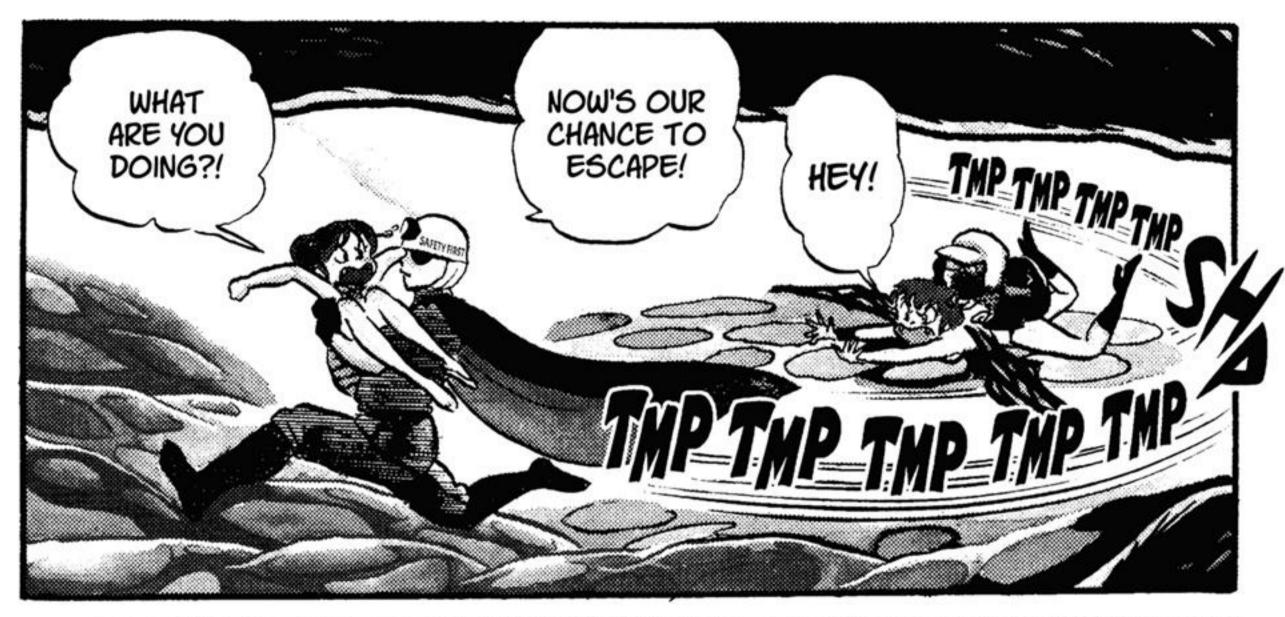








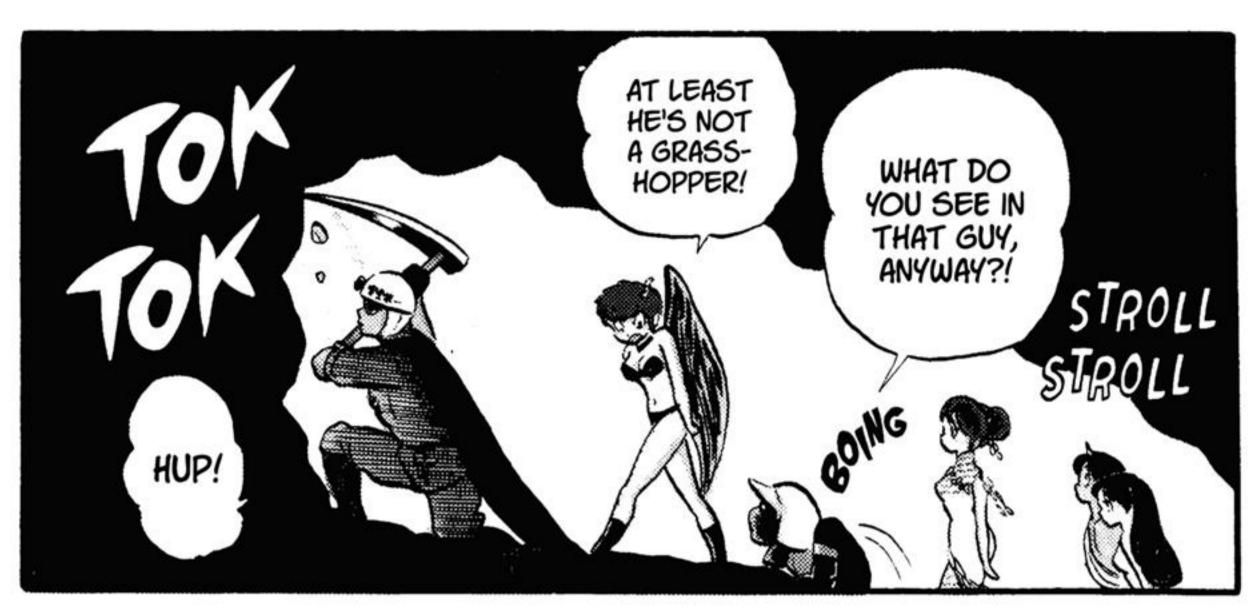


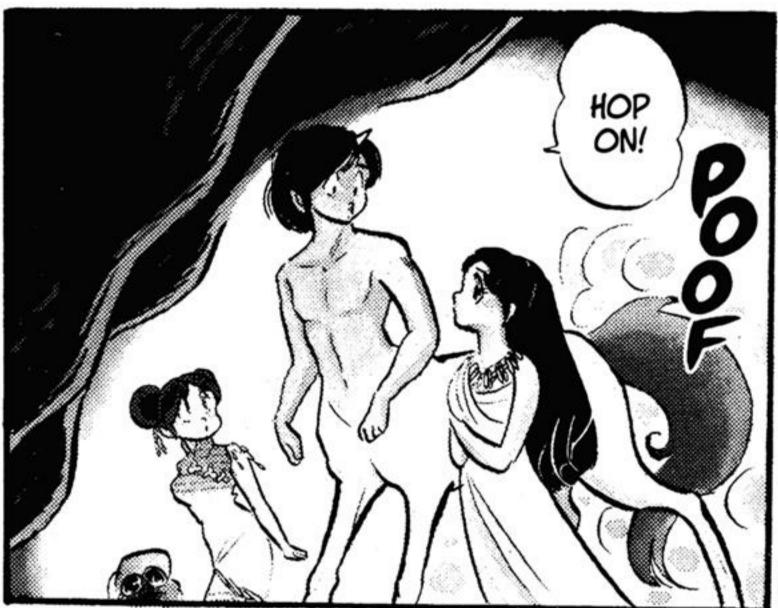








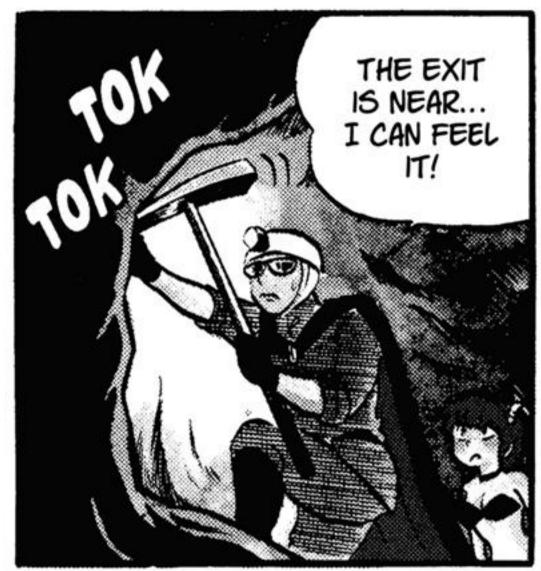








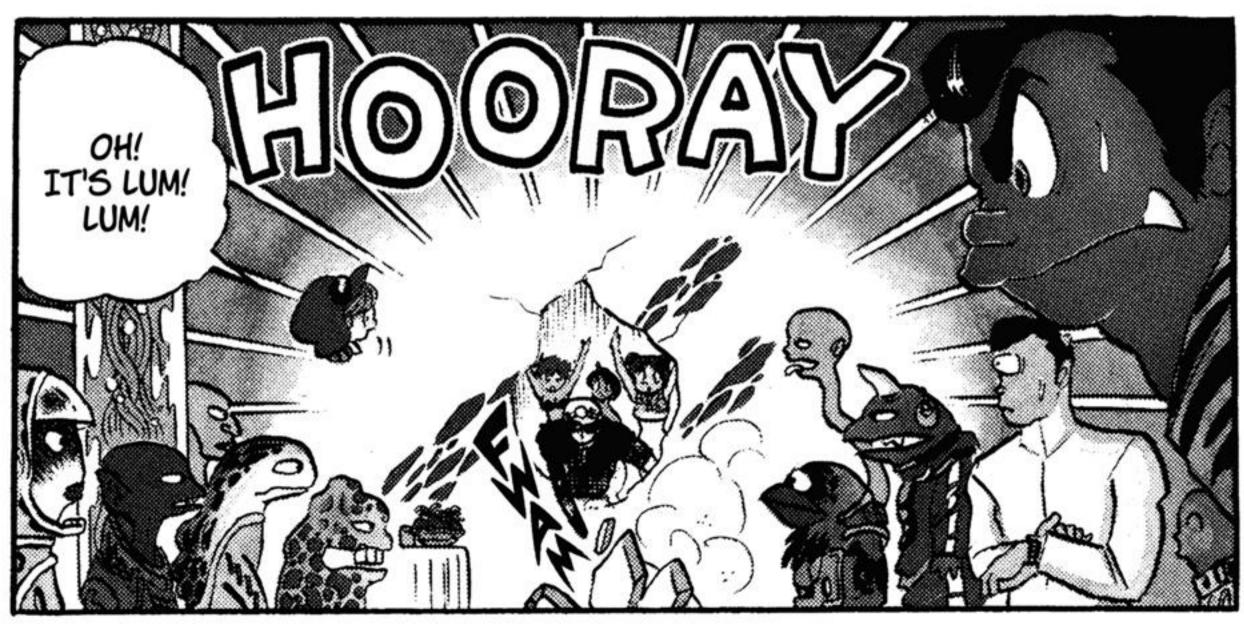


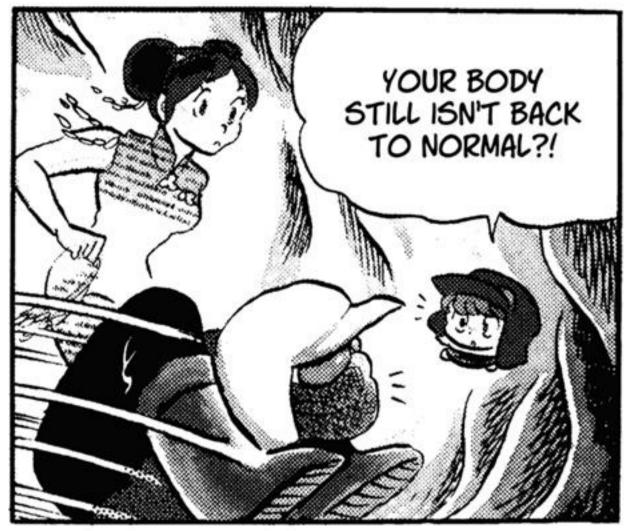


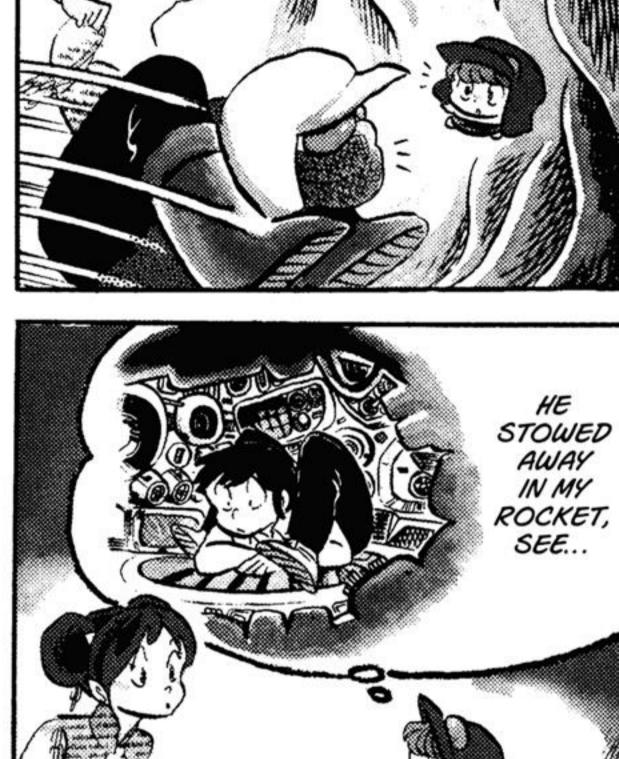




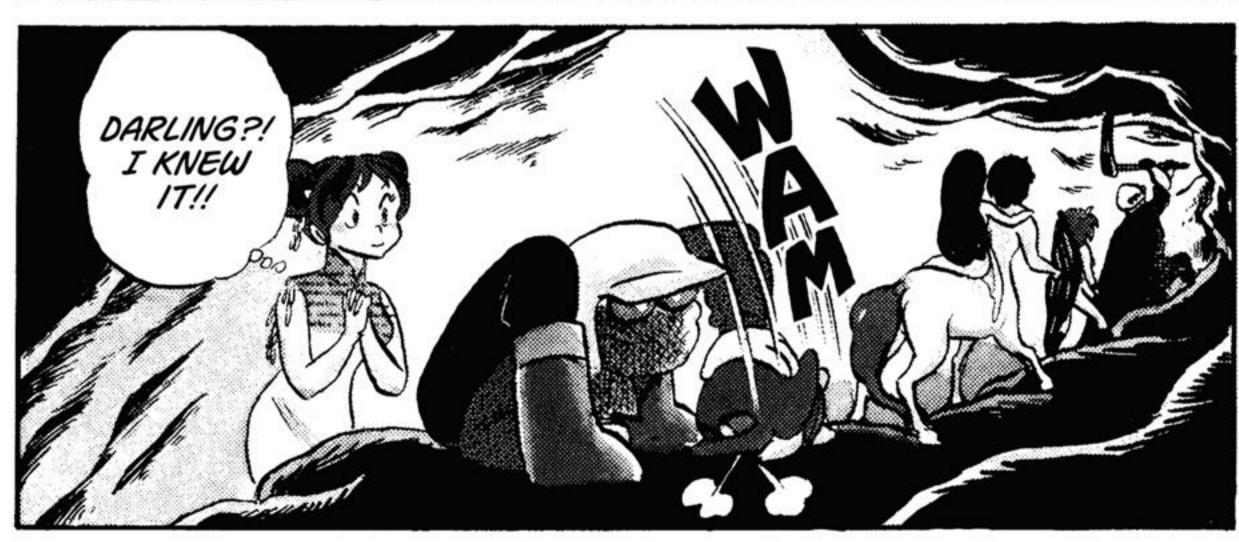










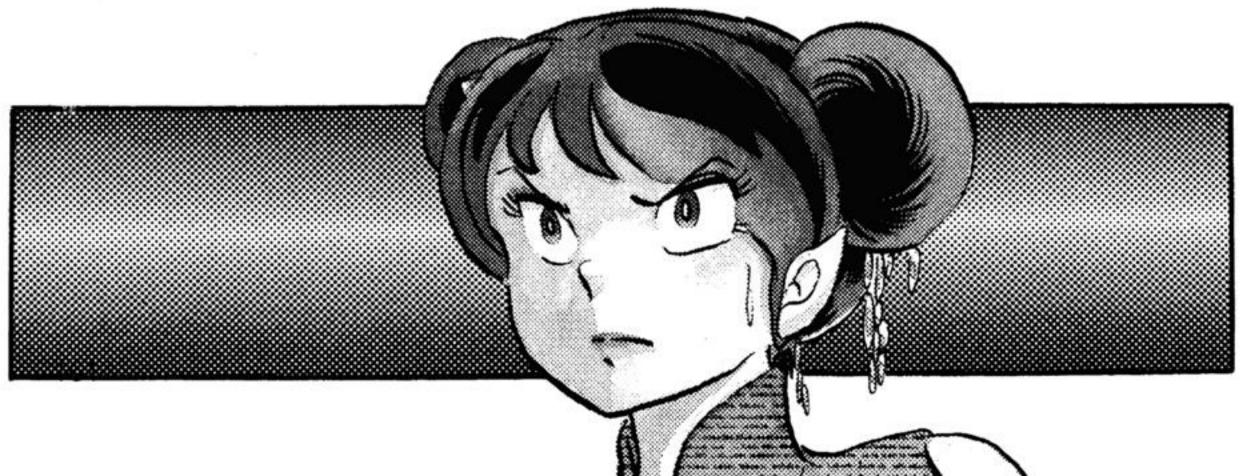


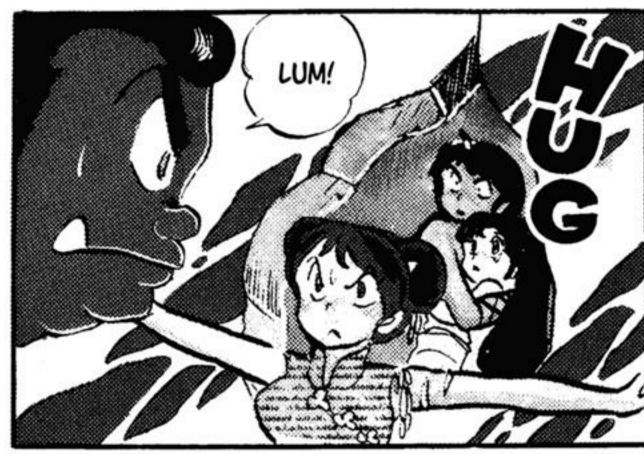










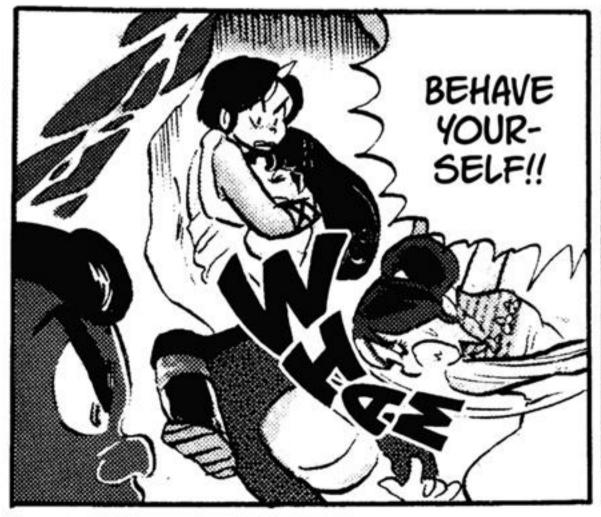


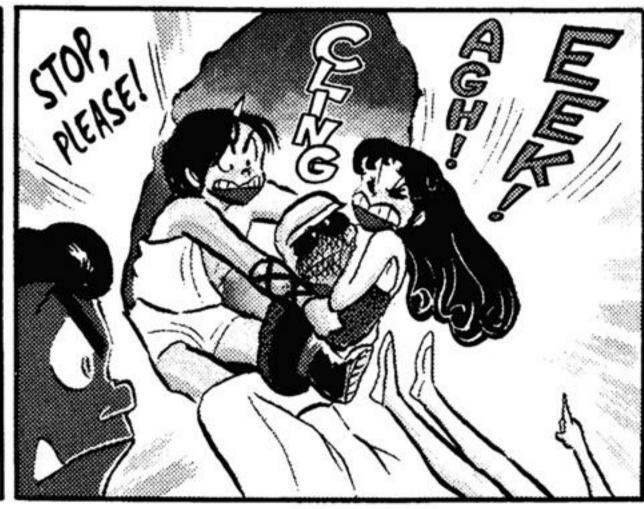




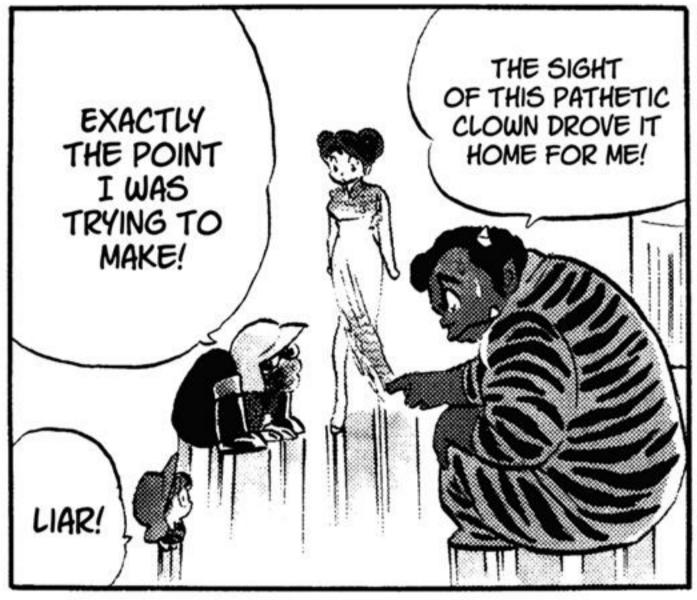










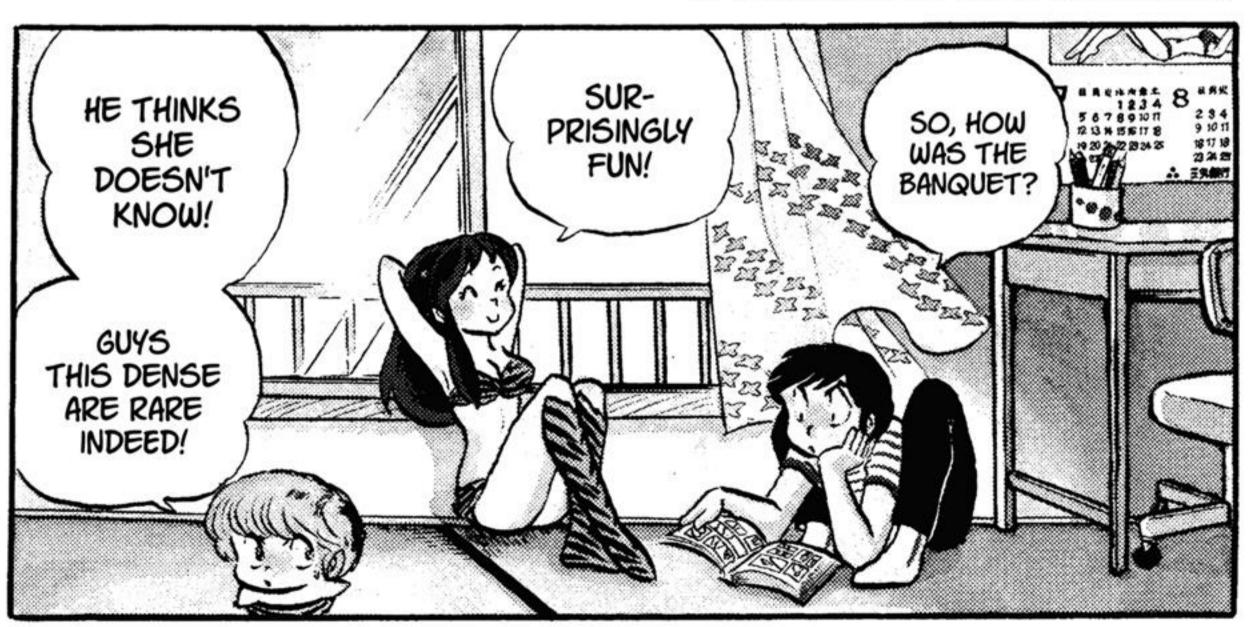








AFTERWARDS AT ATARU'S HOUSE...

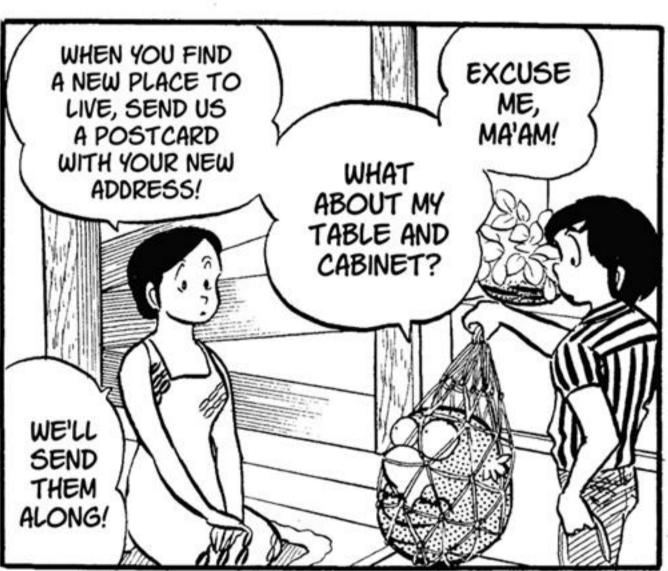




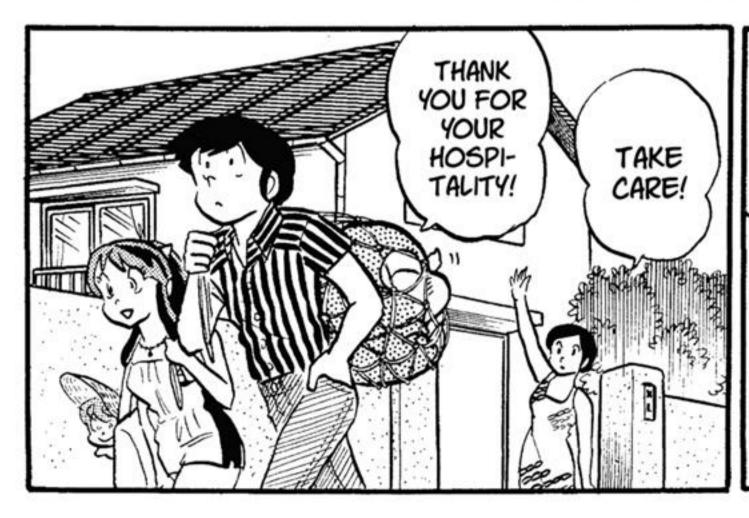


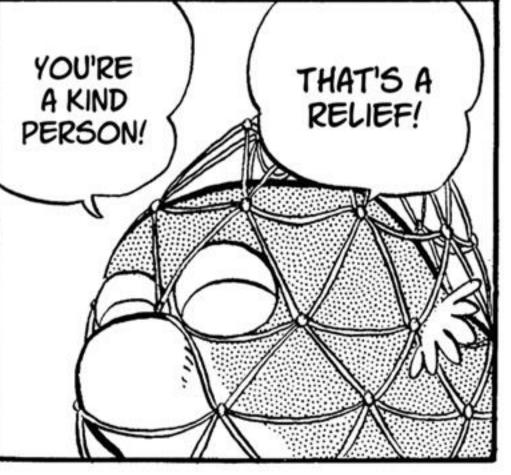


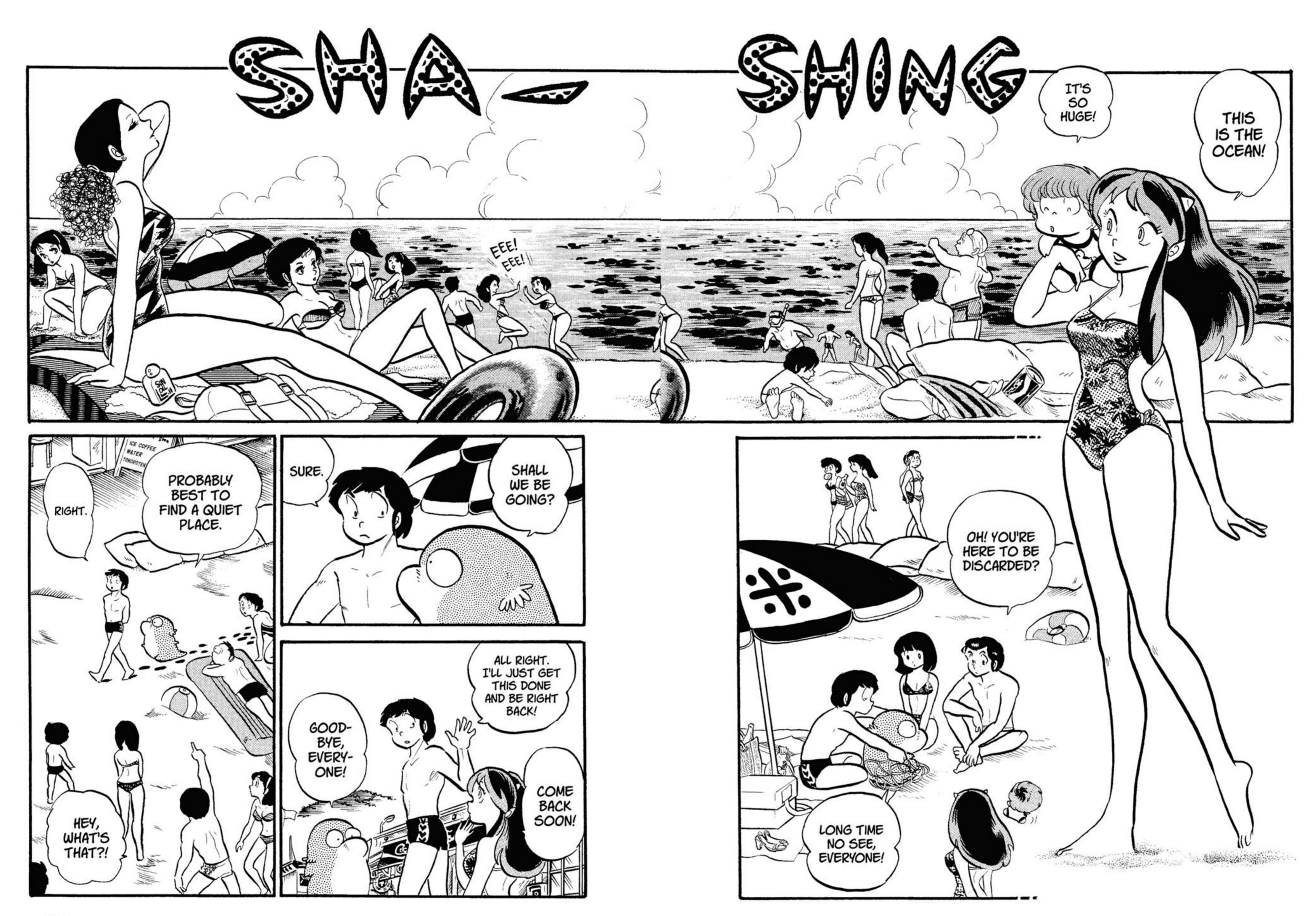


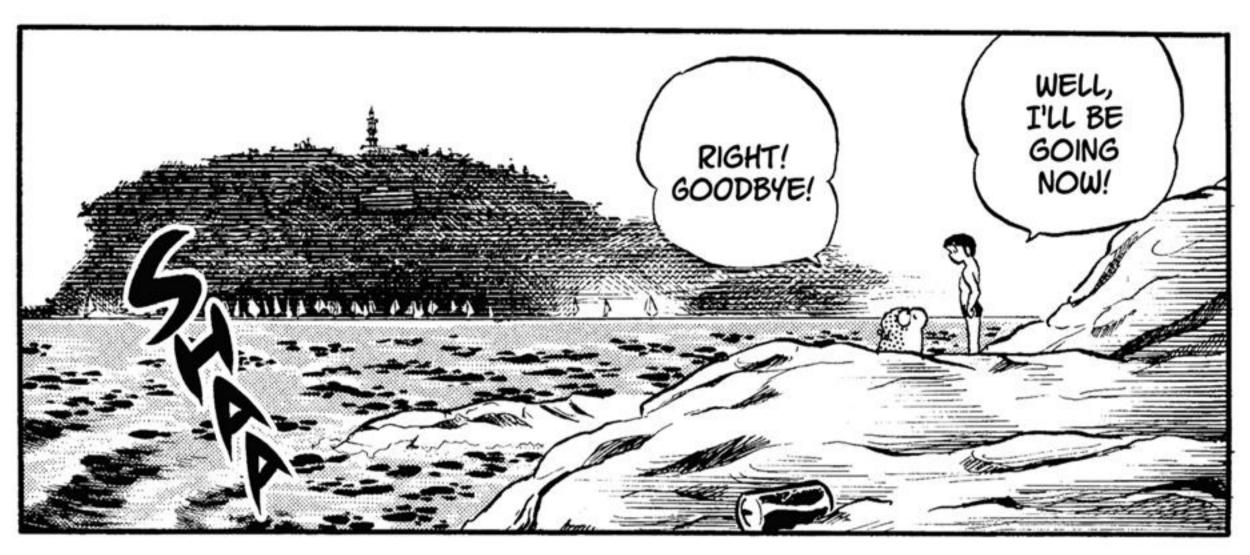






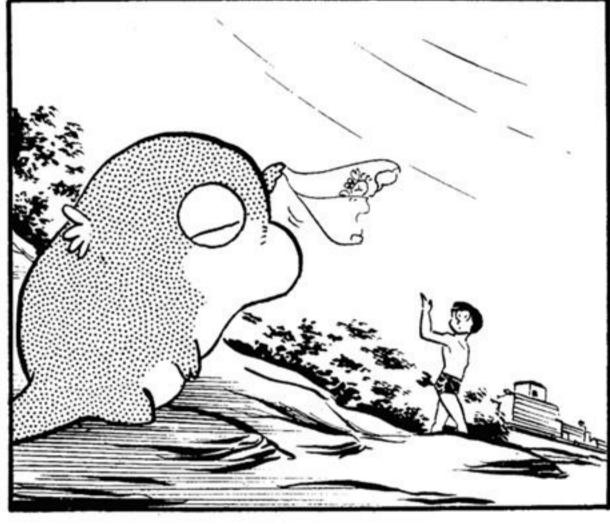


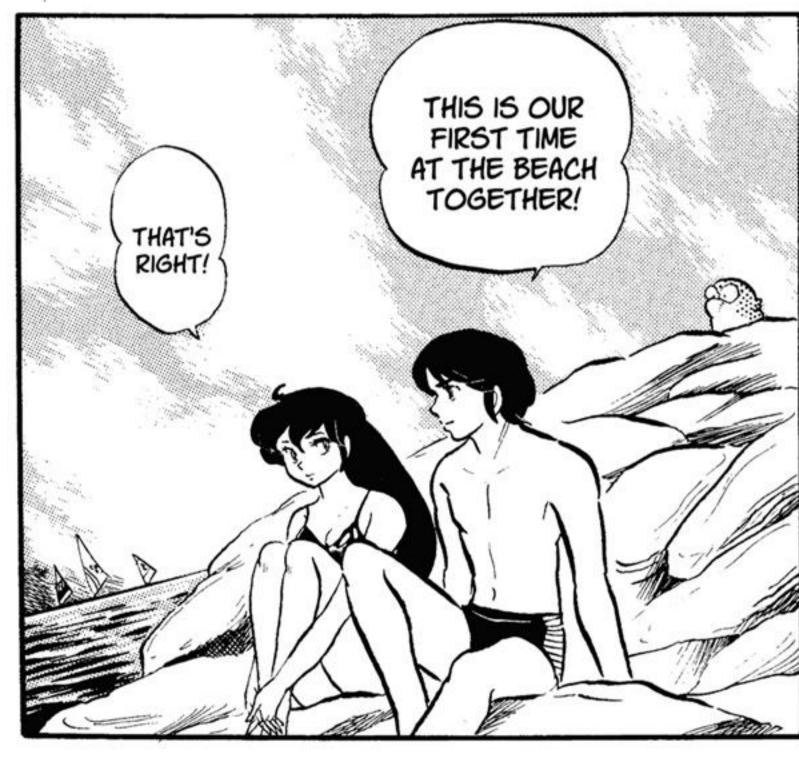












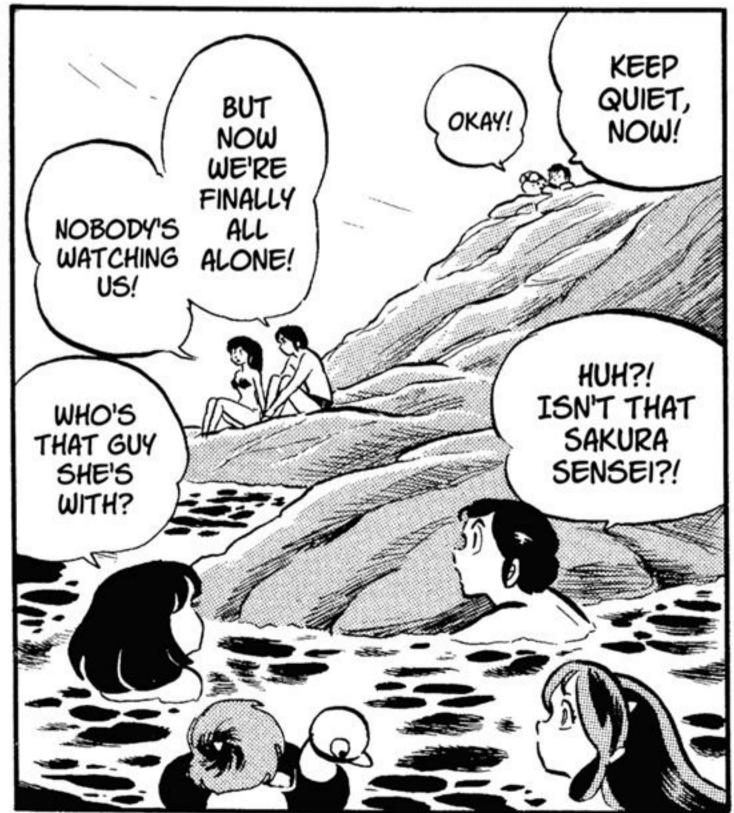






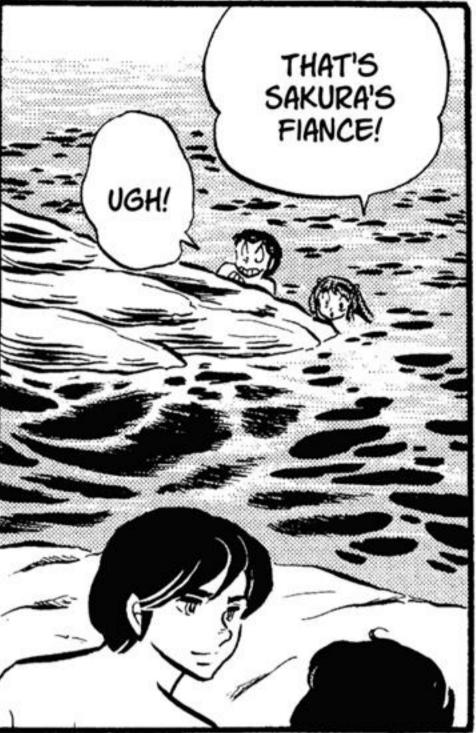




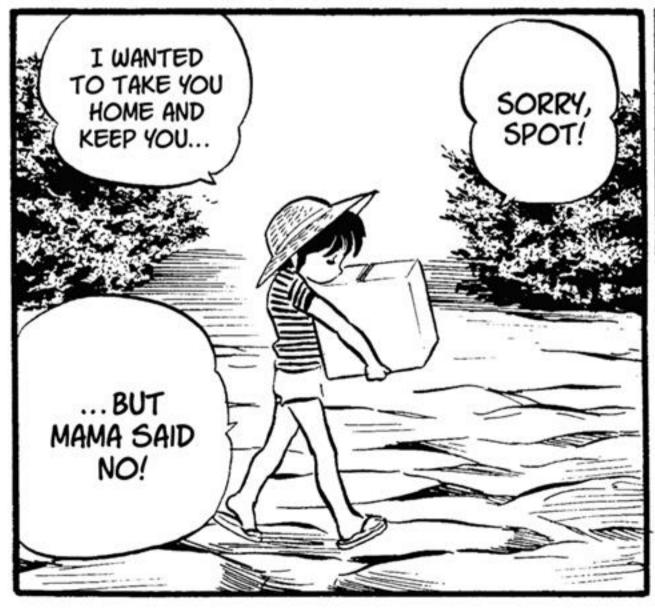






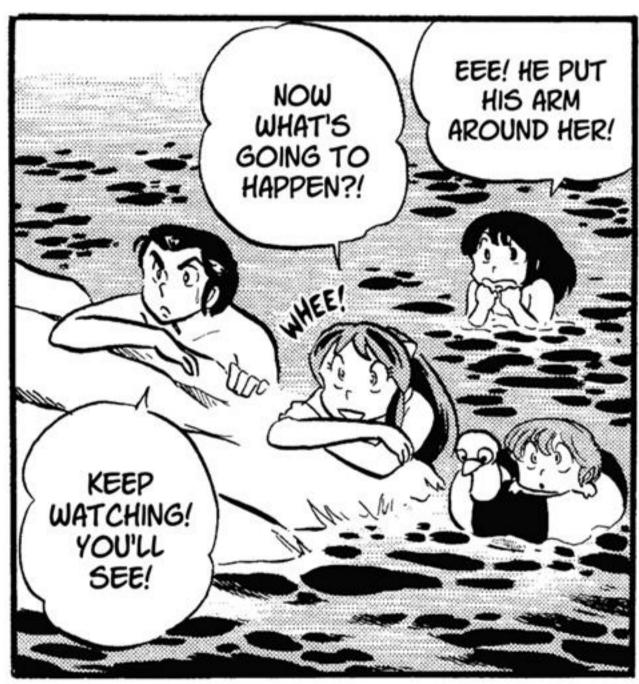


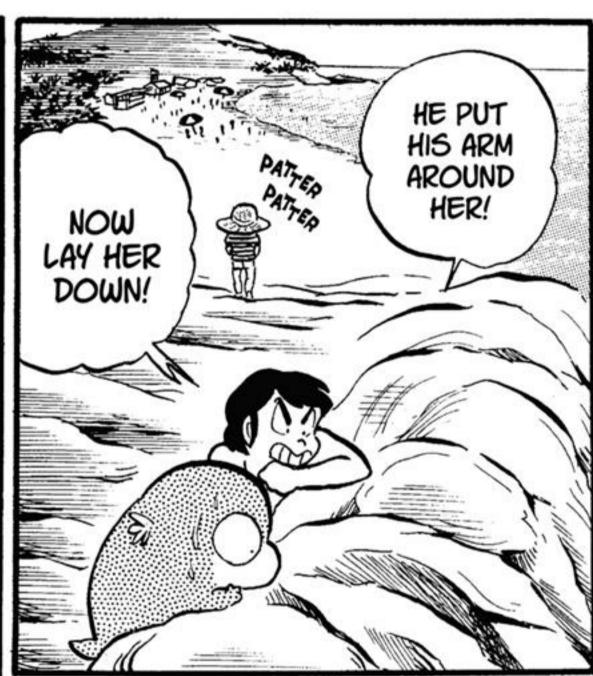












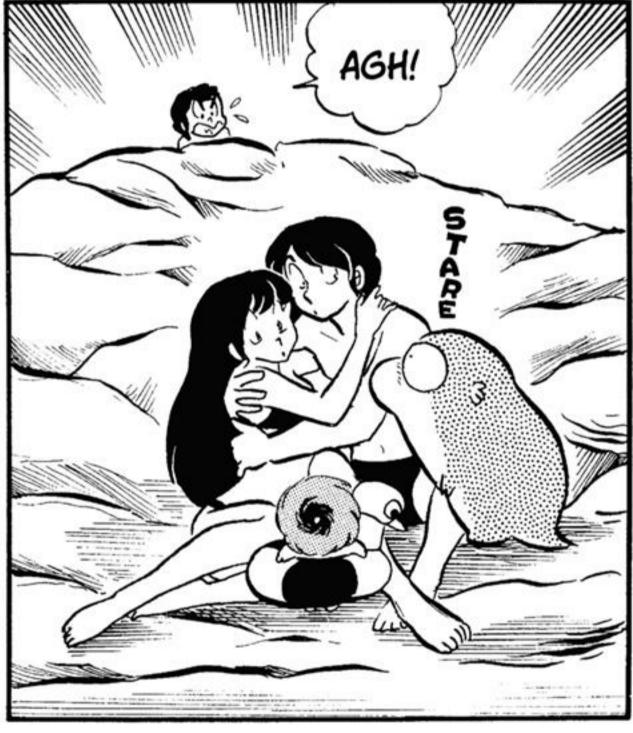


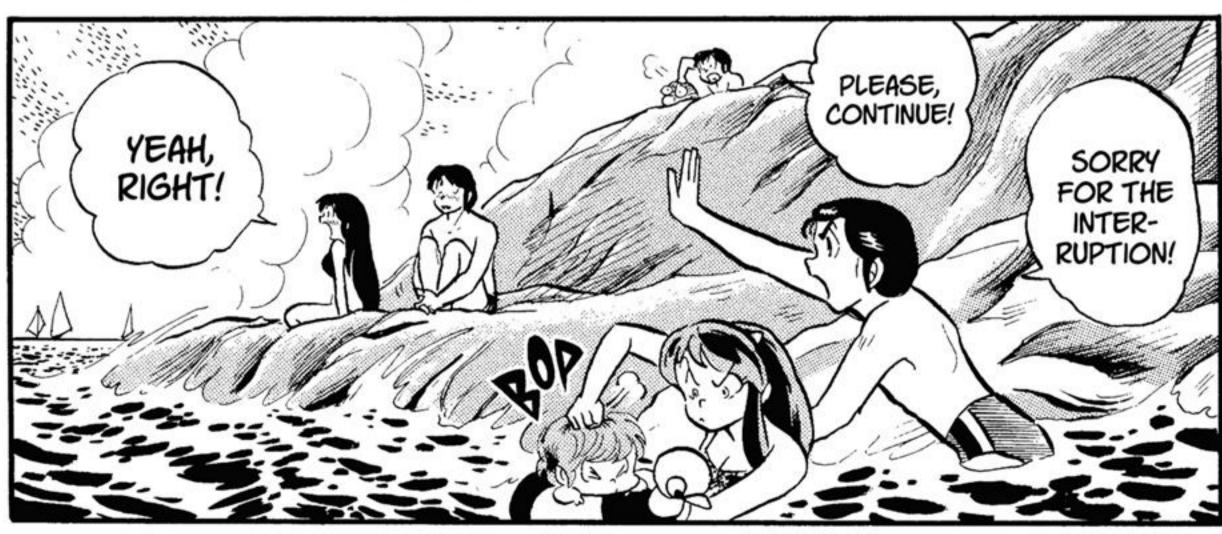


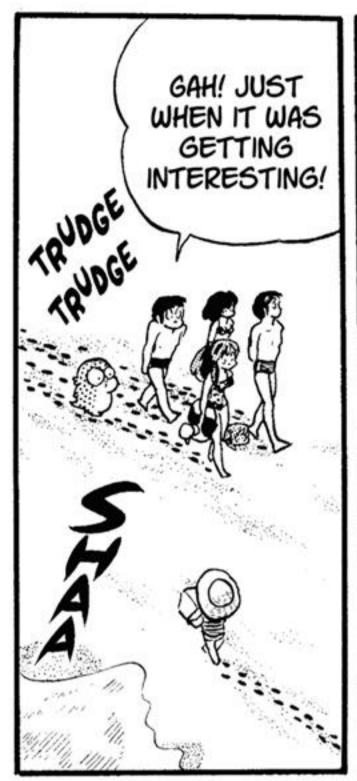






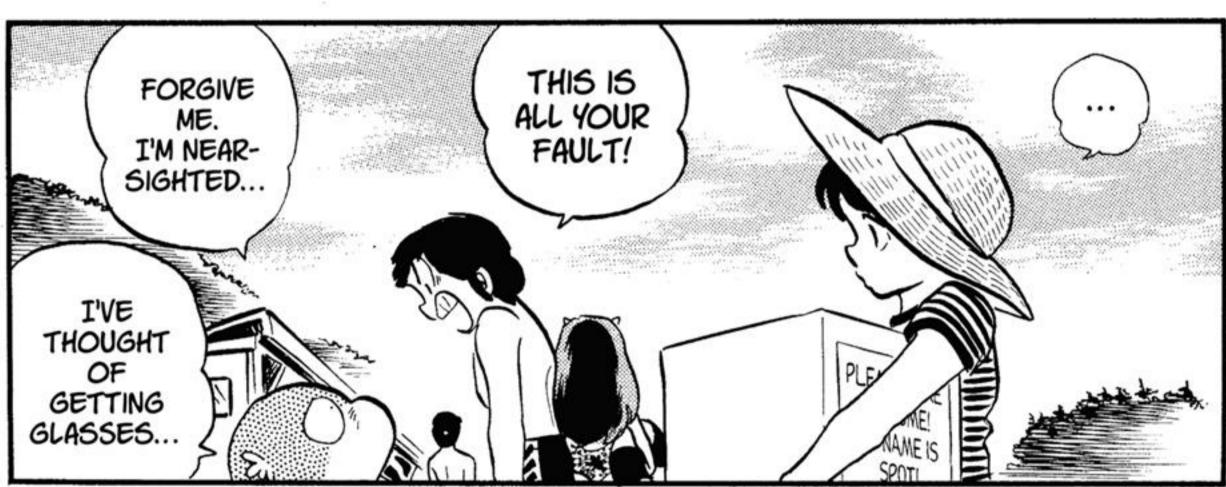






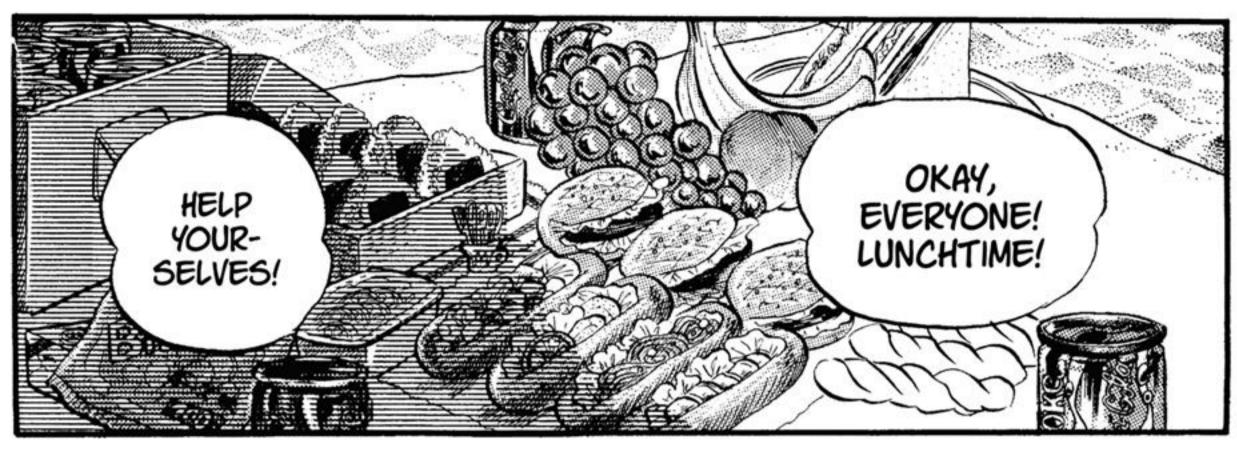


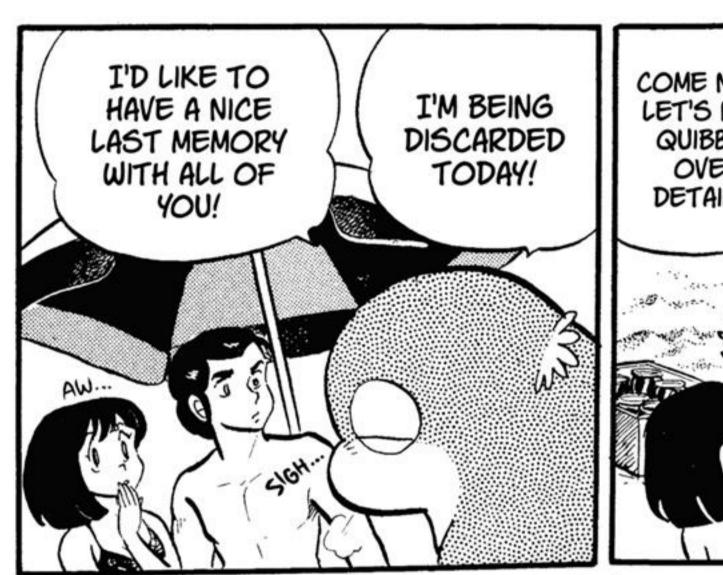


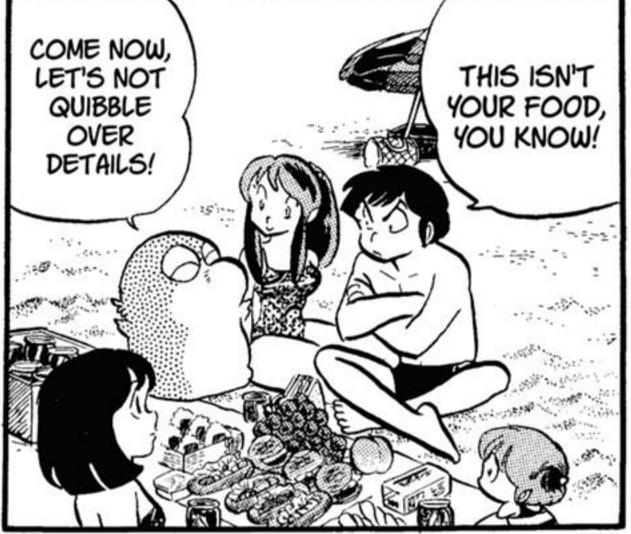




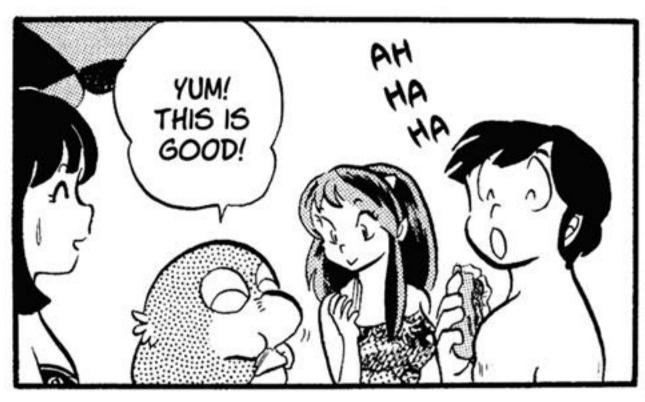


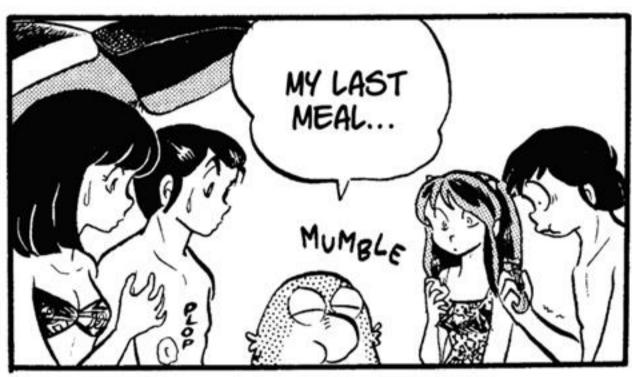


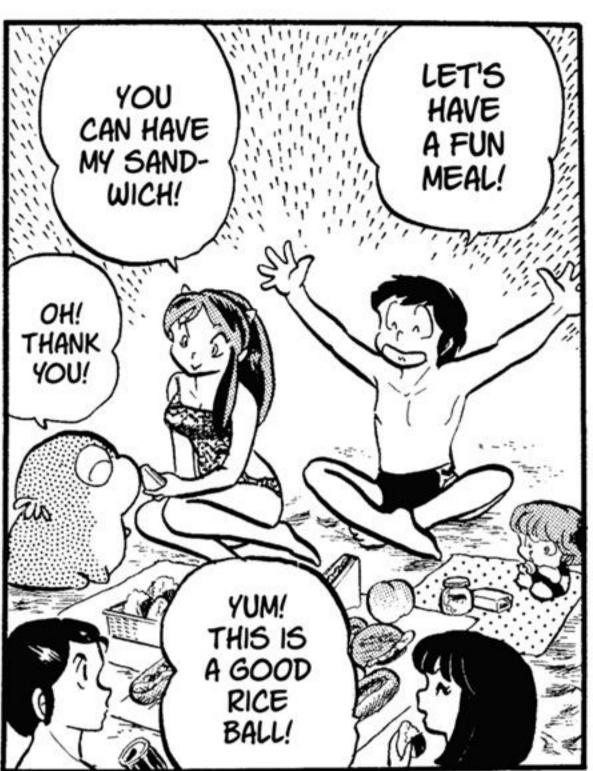


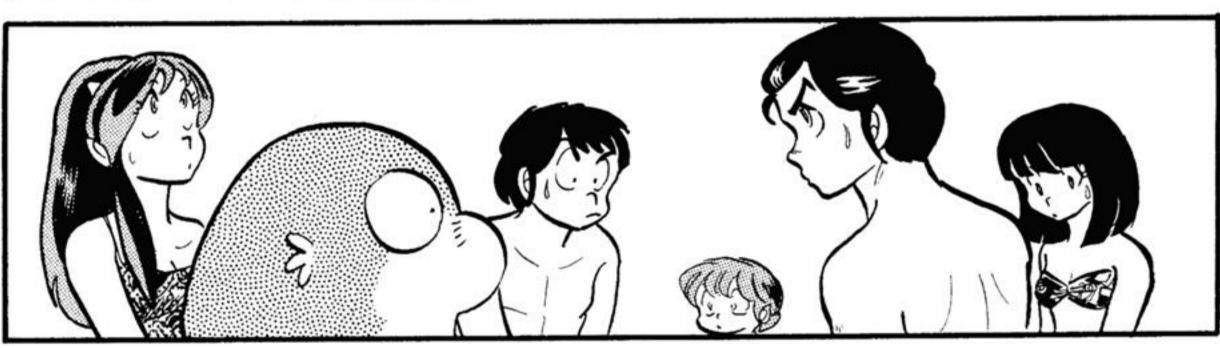


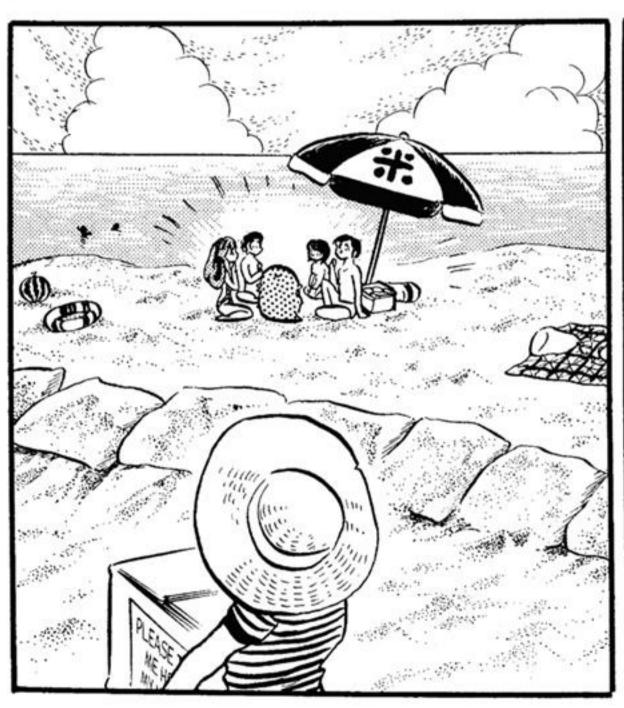




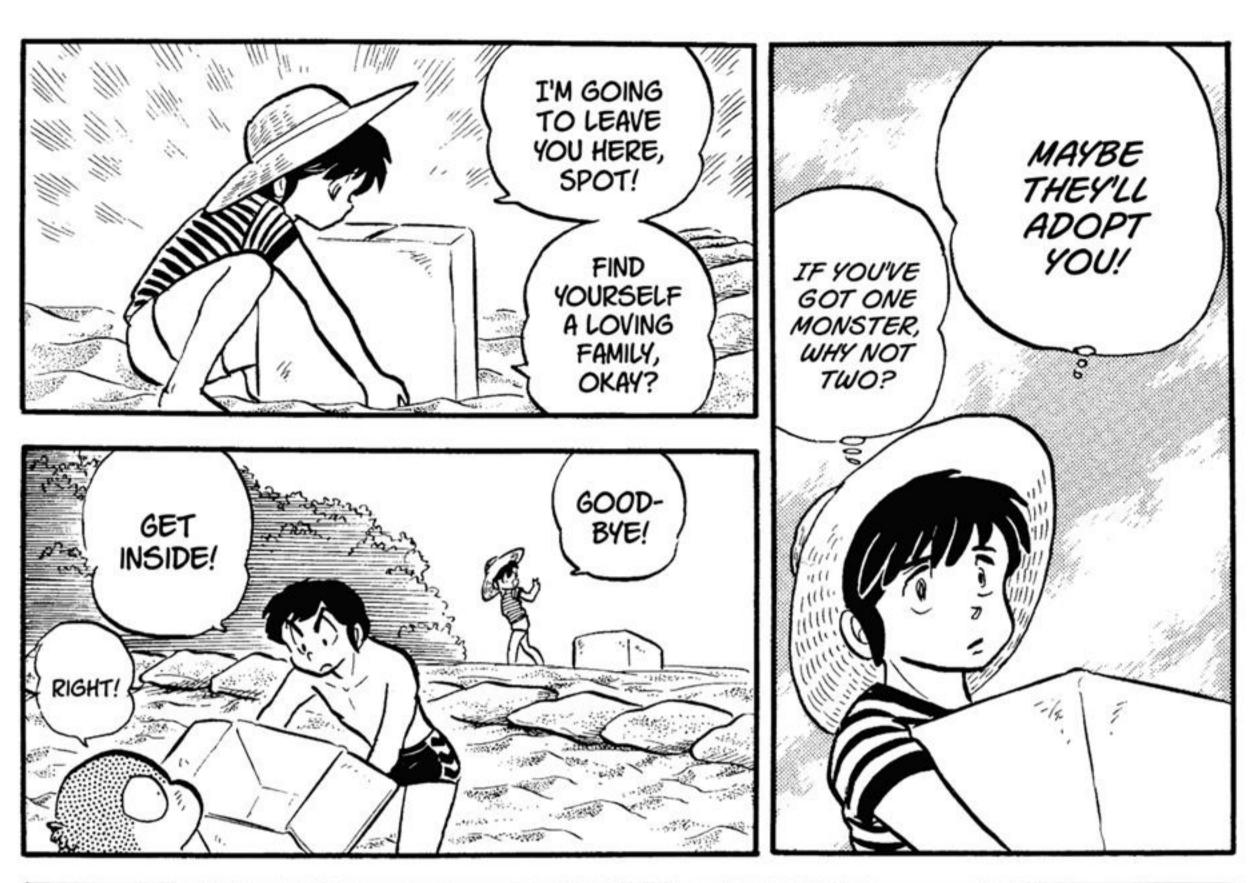






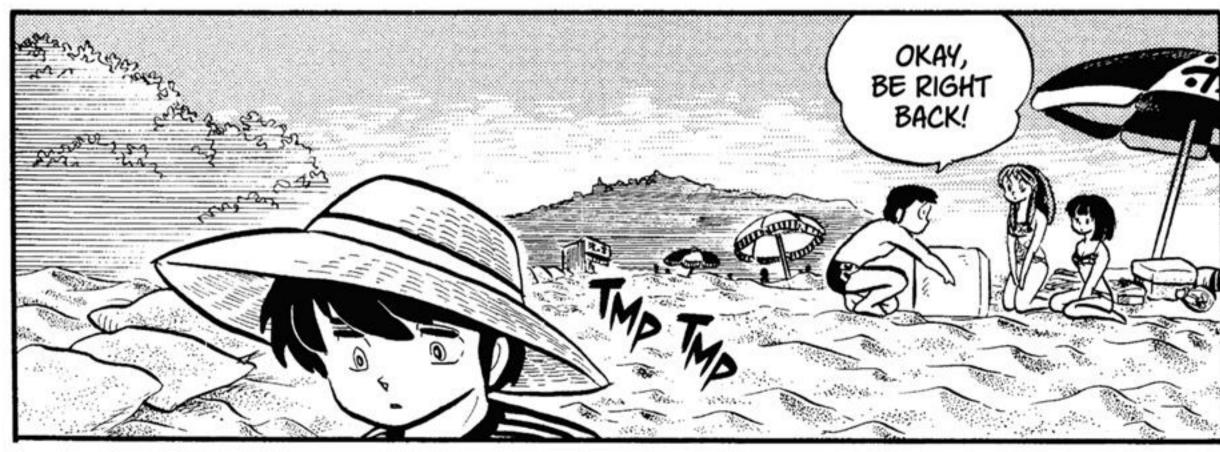


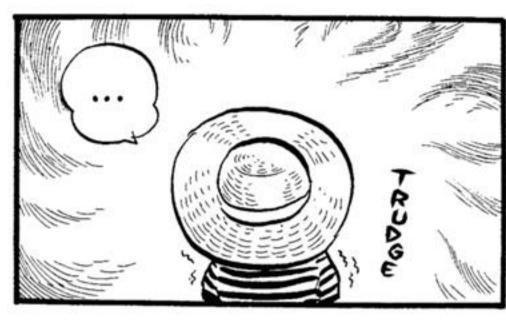










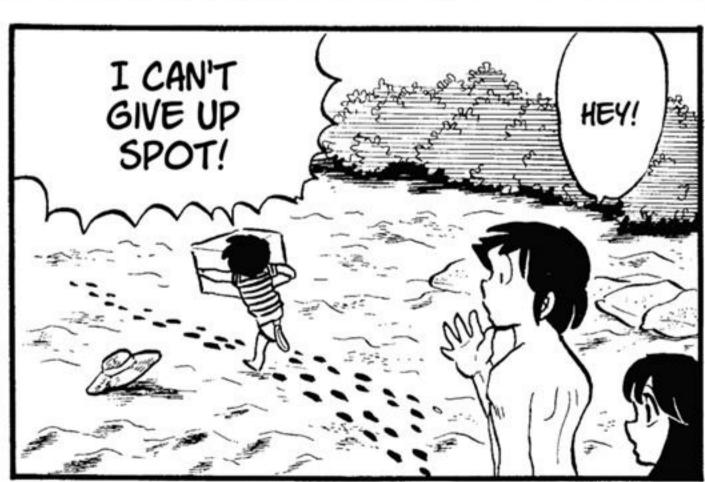




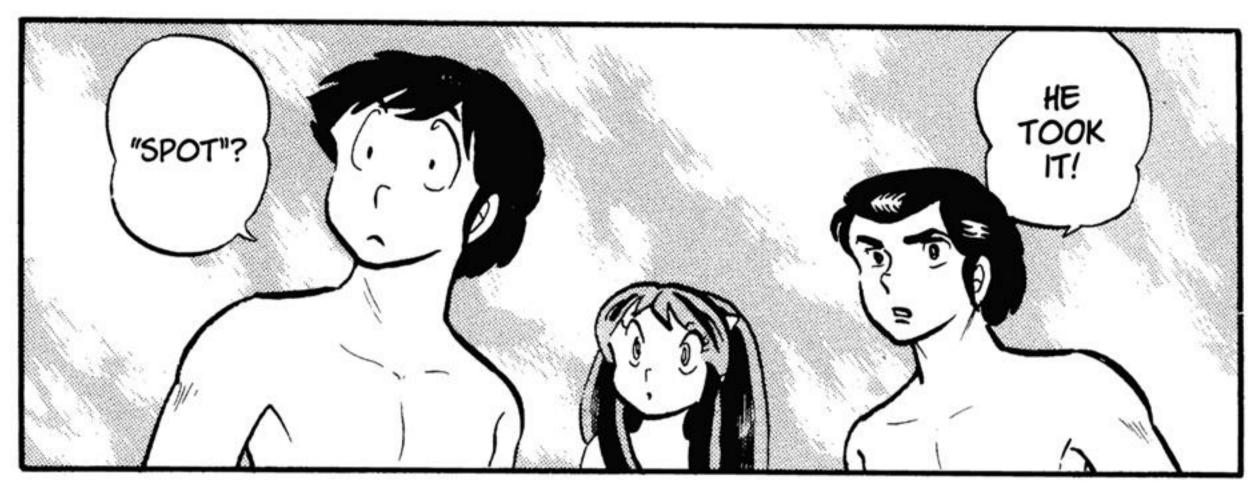




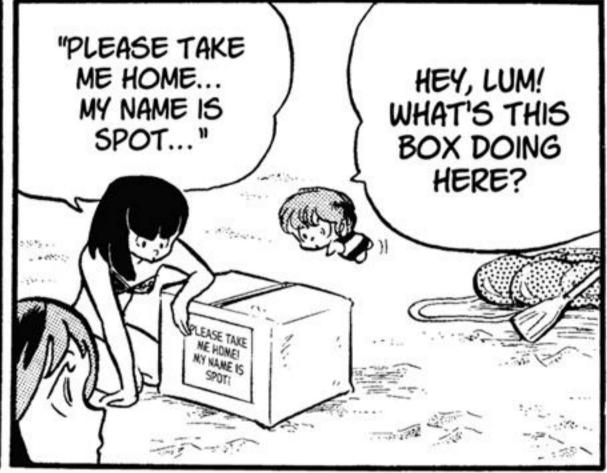


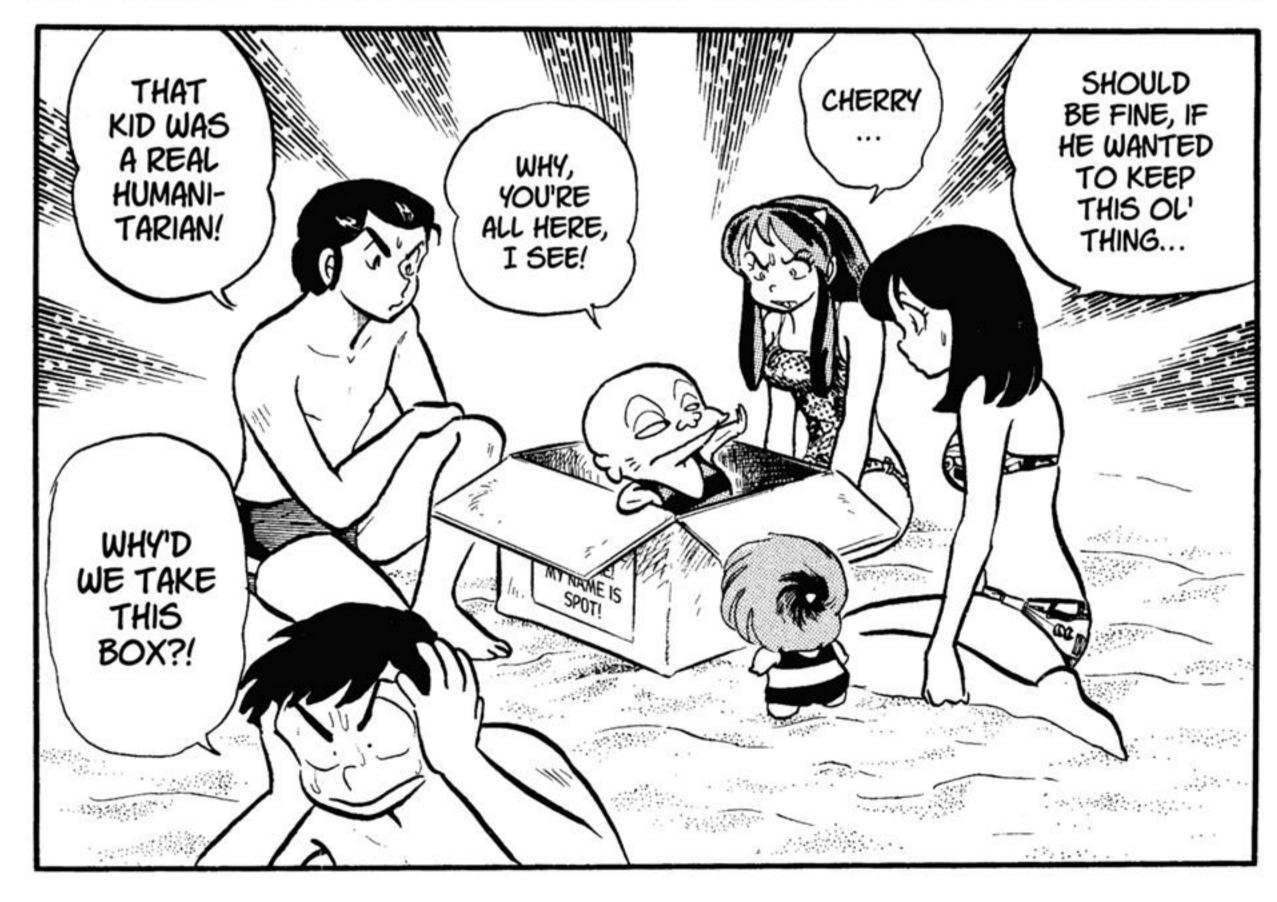












URUSEI YATSURA ★ DATA FILE 09

The Humdrum Town of Tomobiki and Its Flood of **Extraordinary Visitors!**

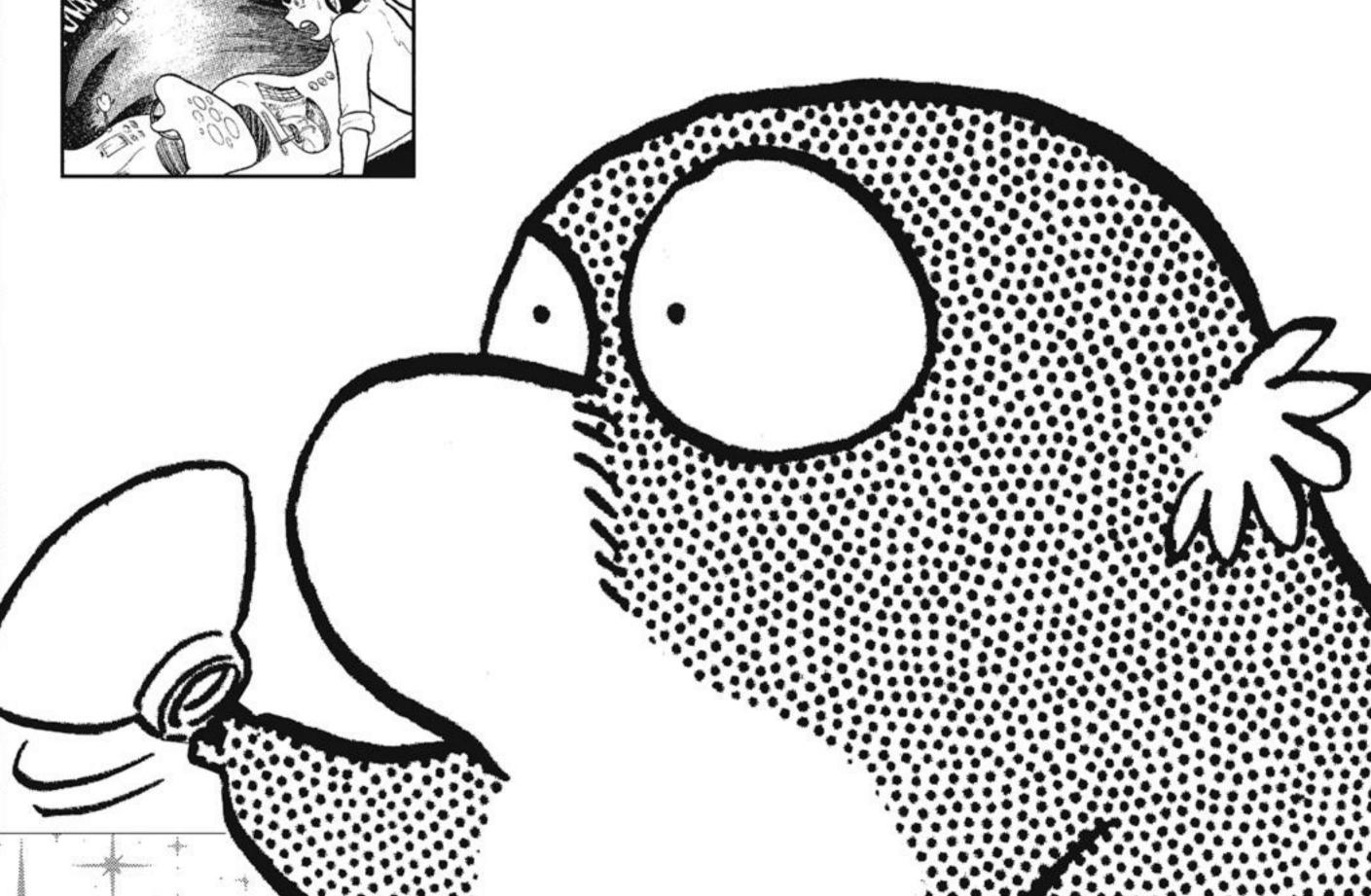
Oyuki, Benten and Ran are all aliens! And of course, Lum and Ten are aliens too!

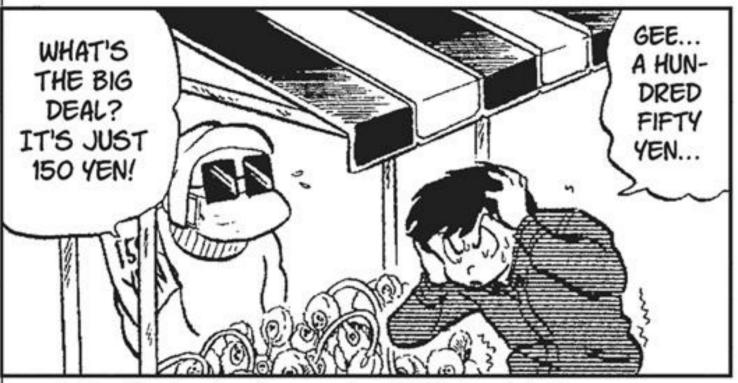
Something is always happening somewhere in the lively town of Tomobiki. One reason is the frequent arrival of mysterious visitors from space.

Japan is a small country on planet Earth. Why do so many aliens choose not just Japan but the specific locality of Tomobiki of all places?



◆ The driver of an interstellar taxi summoned by Ataru (volume 1, chapter 3 "The Sad Sound of Rain")





▲ An alien travels a long way to visit Earth only to be thwarted by Ataru (volume 4, chapter 14 "Eerie Earmuffs")

Quite a number of aliens come to Tomobiki, the home of Lum and her friends, simply to earn a few bucks.

A number of alien merchants seem to come to Tomobiki with the enterprising intention of trying to make some dough, including an interstellar taxi driver (volume 1, chapter 3 "The Sad Sound of Rain"), a street vender (volume 4, chapter 14 "Eerie Earmuffs"), Super Delicious—etc., etc.—#28, vender of hero goods (volume 11, chapter 19 "Glittering, Dazzling Defender of Justice") and a plant seller (volume 13, chapter 21 "Love's Servant").

On the other hand, there are also many aliens who arrive seeking refuge because of some trouble out in space. As such, they are not unlike folks who move to a city to turn over a new leaf after circumstances have made life in their hometown no longer tenable.

These visitors undoubtedly pick Tomobiki because Lum and other aliens have already paved the way. It's daunting to start out all alone in an unknown land. Even if that person seems blatantly unhelpful, there's something reassuring about having a precursor around from your place of origin.



STUDY 2

Why Aliens Come to Tomobiki ②

To Make Money



▲ Really, he's just a greedy businessman (volume 11, chapter 19 "Glittering, Dazzling Defender of Justice")



■ A Tomobiki coffee shop, chosen by the delinquents for a showdown! (volume 10, chapter 10 "Recovering That Which Was Lost, Fierce 3-on-3 Battle")

STUDY 1

Why Aliens Come to Tomobiki ①

To Hang Out or Have Tea

A fair number of aliens come to Tomobiki just because Lum is already there.

Lum's friends Oyuki, Benten and Ran have tea at coffee shops in Tomobiki just like ordinary folk (volume 9, chapter 12 "Cosmo Teacher CAO-2"). Ten and Rei cuddle up under the heated *kotatsu* table at Ataru's house with Kotatsu Kitty and play cards (volume 9, chapter 3 "Anko Pathos, the Taste of Love?!").

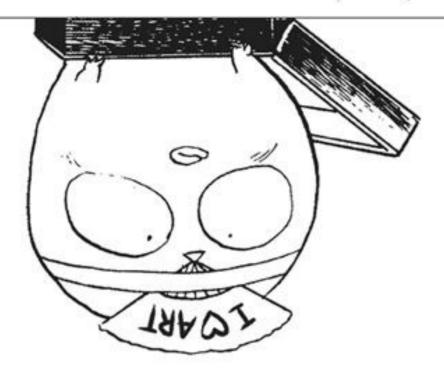
Ran initially comes to Tomobiki to seek revenge against her childhood friend Lum (volume, chapter 19 "Sports Festival Close Call") but after a while simply enjoys leading the normal life of an Earthling girl.

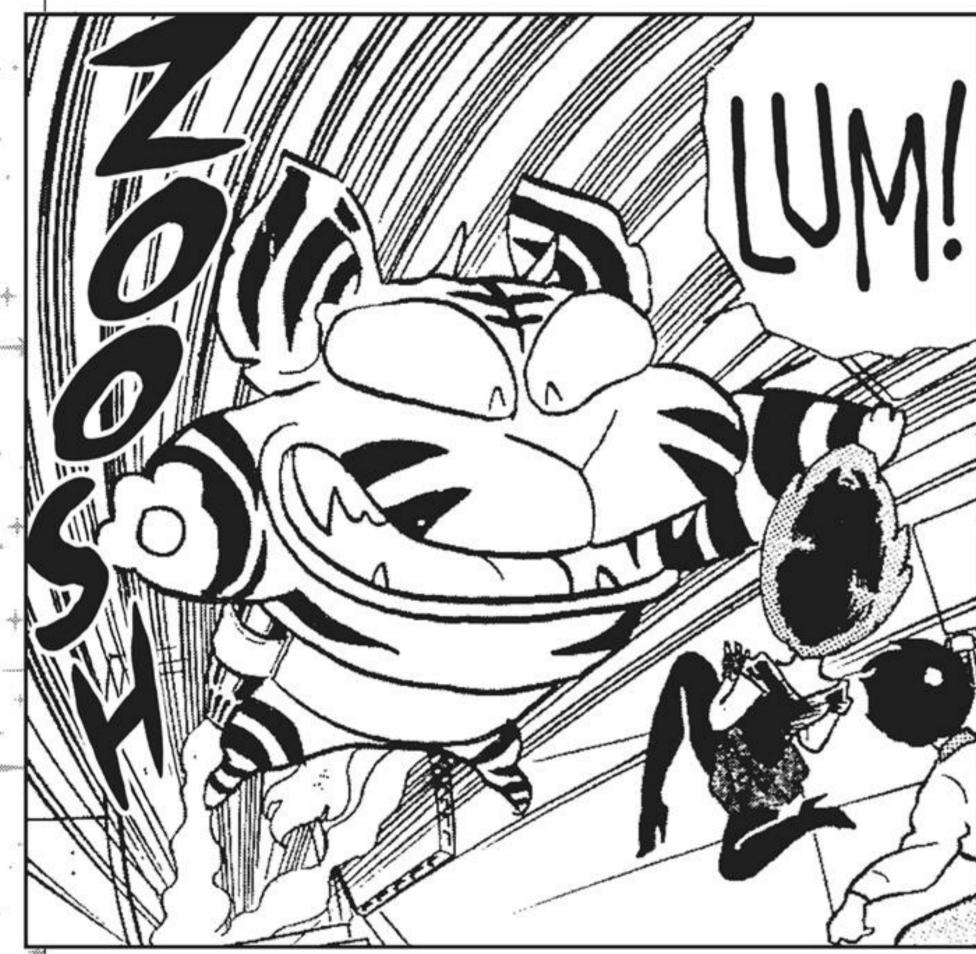
Even when aliens come to Earth with the explicit intention of settling a score with Lum and company, once they find themselves at an Earth café, they tend to forget their agenda and focus on devouring the buffet (volume 10, chapter 10 "Recovering That Which Was Lost, Fierce 3-on-3 Battle").

Perhaps their various vendettas are just excuses to visit Tomobiki and hang out. Something along the lines of, "Hey, I hear that planet Earth where Lum lives is pretty fun!" "Yeah? Let's go check it out!" The only trouble is that their presence invariably causes a lot of trouble, such as when Oyuki leaves piles of snow in Ataru's room (volume 2, chapter 10 "Oyuki") or when Benten goes on a bean-shooter rampage (volume 4, chapter 9 "Bean-Shooter for Ogres").

However, they have very little malice and are fundamentally friendly toward Earthlings. They simply want to enjoy their time in Tomobiki.







■ Rei is an alien too (i.e., an alien cow?) and as an ogre, he is fundamentally an invader (volume 13, chapter 11 "Heartbreak Crossin' - Conclusion")

Thus, Tomobiki is an extremely dangerous area for the hapless aliens who wander into it with no knowledge of, or preparation for, what awaits them.

While it may seem that Lum and the other aliens are constantly wreaking havoc on Tomobiki, perhaps the opposite is actually true: Ataru and the other inhabitants of Tomobiki are really having a field day with all the aliens who throng to their town!

The residents of Tomobiki are not to be trifled with!







▲ Oyuki is the ultimate merchant from space (volume 14, chapter 19 "Toll of the Wind Chimes")

Or perhaps Lum and her friends have been spreading the word in space that Tomobiki's residents are easy marks when it comes to making money. If you want to strike it rich, start with the easy targets—that's the golden rule of business!

For Tomobiki residents, space is still an unknown frontier, but for aliens, Tomobiki is a major destination!

STUDY 3

Why Aliens Come to Tomobiki ③

For Conquest

Nonetheless, space is a vast place. Some aliens stumble across Earth purely by accident.

"How beautiful! I want this planet!" declares an alien queen intent on conquering the Tokyo area. Unfortunately, she miscalculates and ends up in Tomobiki. Instead of conquering Earth, she retreats in defeat after Lum and Ataru trash her spaceship (volume 5, chapter 4 "Her Majesty and the Amorous Rugby Player").

In another instance, a would-be conqueror of Earth makes the unfortunate choice of Tomobiki to land in, only to get gobsmacked by a huge blown-up view of Cherry eating and then slapped by all of Tomobiki High's female students. When he endures an onslaught of Lum's electrical shocks, he retreats in defeat (volume 13, chapter 20 "Alien Invaders").

W...
WHAT?

◆ An alien invader who has taken on Ataru's form gets cruel treatment (volume 13, chapter 20 "Alien Invaders")

The number

falls ill...

of times Ataru

Anyway

We counted

them up!

For a healthy guy, Ataru gets sick quite a bit!

Ataru is pretty tough. The neighbors say he has "the vitality of a beast" (volume 1, chapter 5 "Between a Rock and a Hard Place") and when Sakura expects his injuries to take two days to heal, he's all better by the following panel (volume 3, chapter 1 "Sakura Sensei, Enchanted Blossom").

Nonetheless, Ataru somehow often ends up downed by illness. This would be understandable if the illnesses arose from possession by various spirits since Ataru is known to have an extremely unlucky countenance. However, four out of nine times, Ataru seems to have simply caught a cold of the sort that can befall anyone from the change in seasons or from getting chilled at night.

More Cursed by Illness Than Spirits

Moreover, Ataru is possessed by spirits nine times as well—the same number of times as he is laid up in bed. Of these, he winds up bedridden only twice: the

reaper (volume 1, chapter 4
"Present for You") and the time he
is possessed by a fox (volume 2,
chapter 10 "Sake and Tears and
Men and Women"). While drinking
an anesthetic doesn't seem to
faze him (volume 6, chapter 12 "A
Strange New Year at the Mendo
Estate") and he is uninjured after
falling from the third floor (volume
11, chapter 9 "Lum Becomes a
Cow"), somehow he seems more
susceptible to tiny viruses.





▲ On several occasions, Ataru winds up in bed with a fever (volume 6, chapter 13 "Tales of a Wandering Snowman")

◆ Only Ataru... (volume 4, chapter 2 "Genuine Close Call")

Number of times Ataru is bedridden9

Reasons Ataru is bedridden:

Common cold (4 times), kicked by Lum, falls from space and loses consciousness, food poisoning, possession by the grim reaper, possession by fox spirit, transformed into a spirit (once each)

Number of times Ataru is possessed or summons a spirit......9

Spirits who possess Ataru or are summoned by him:

Interstellar taxi driver, imp, grim reaper, fox spirit, Belial the devil, a sickness spirit, a snowman, pear and chestnut spirits

Author: Kyoko Sugimori Concept: Masatake Sugimori

Urușei Yatsura

Part 10



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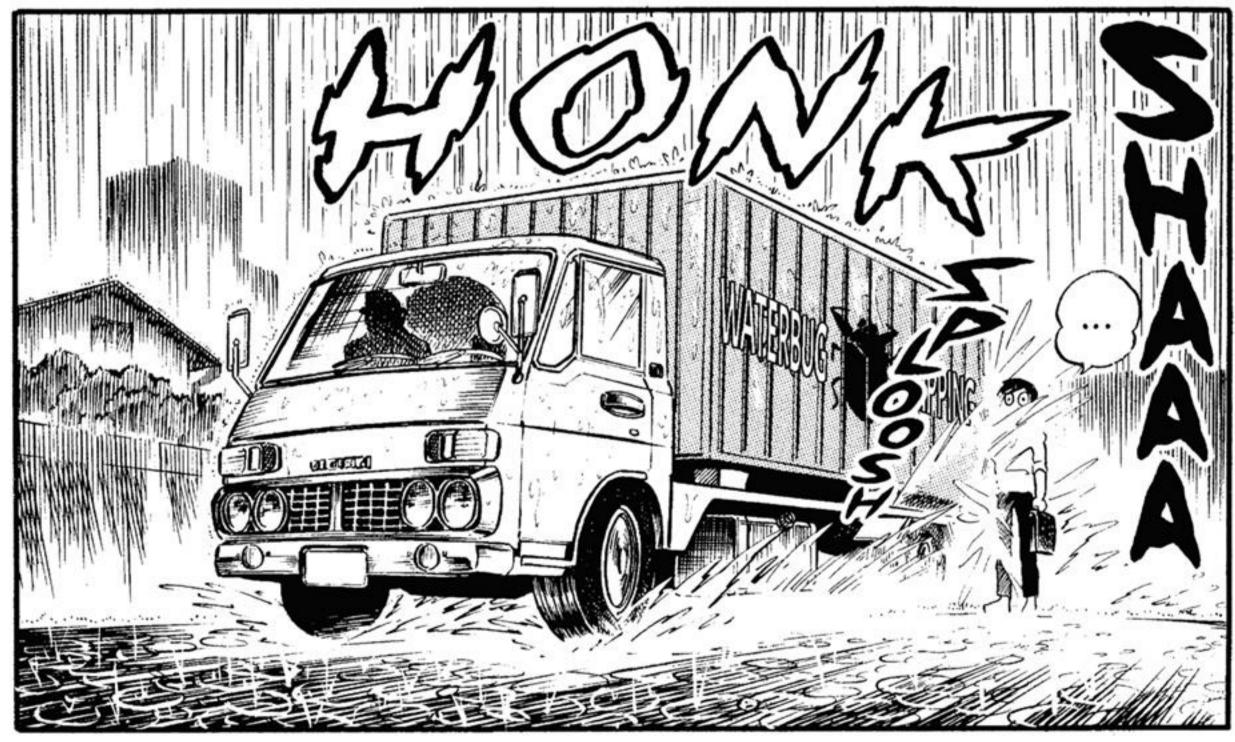


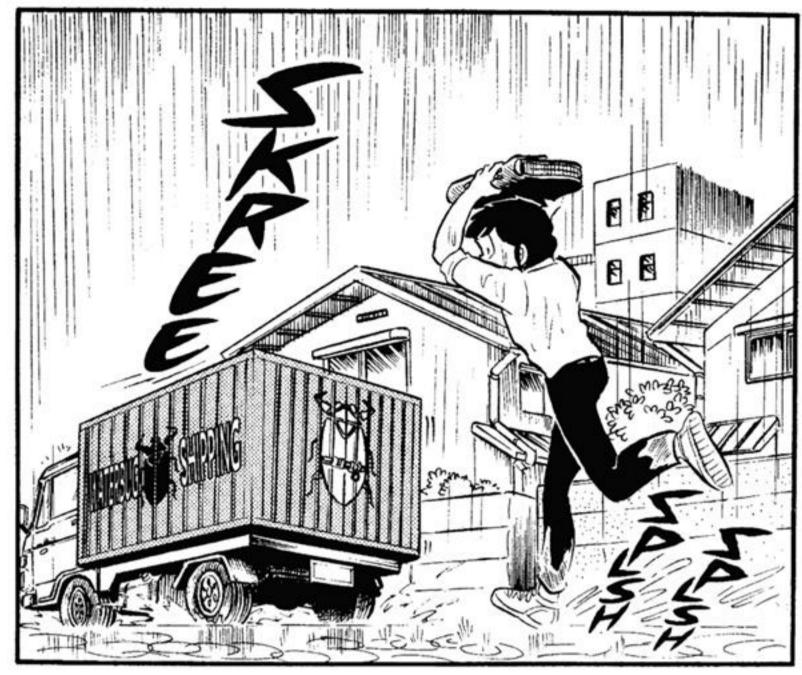
CHAPTER 12: O, RAIN! RAIN AND RAIN MORE!













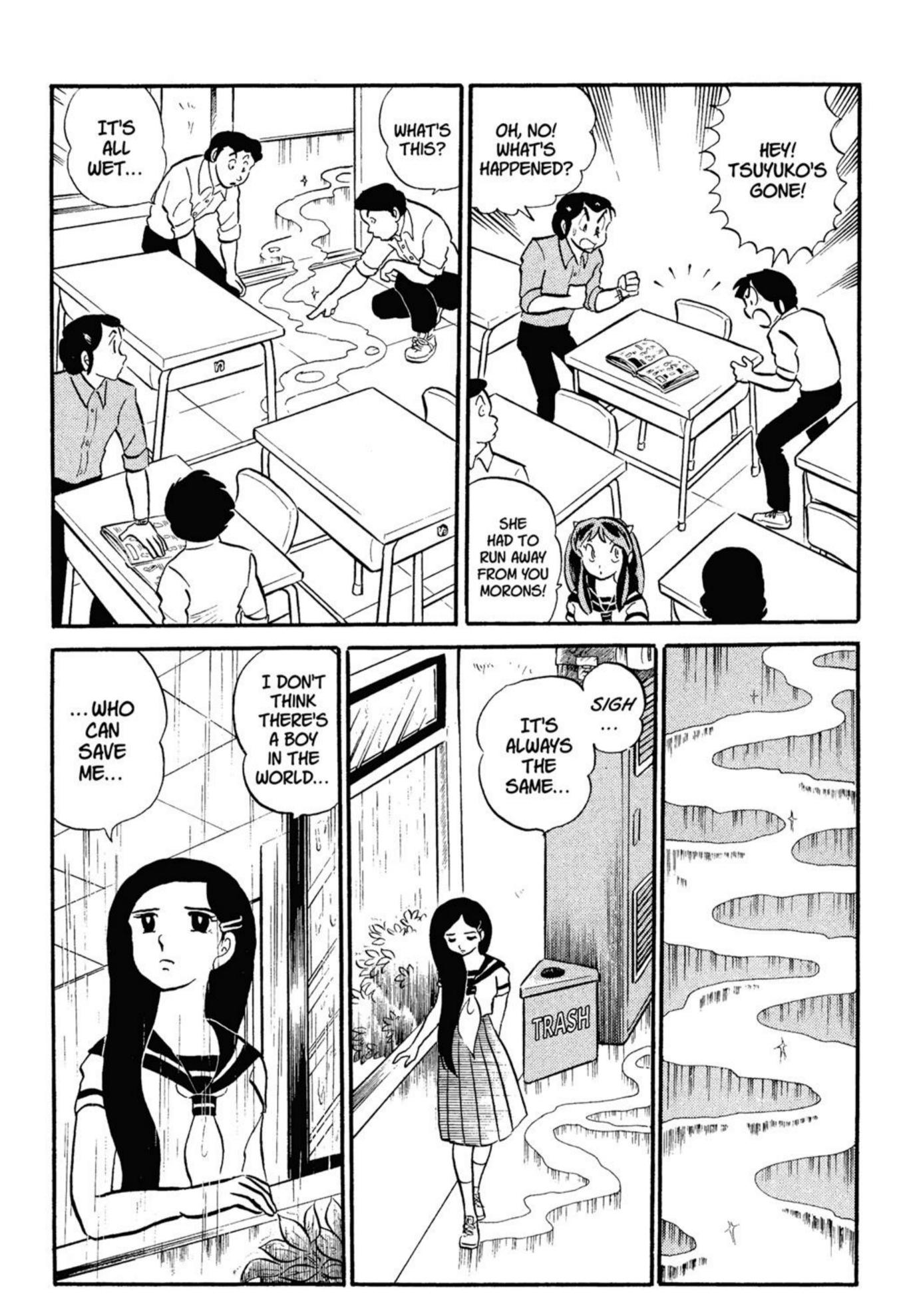




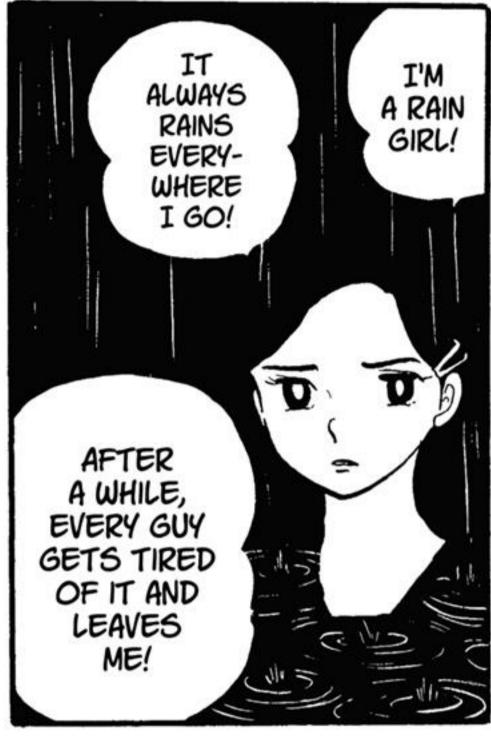










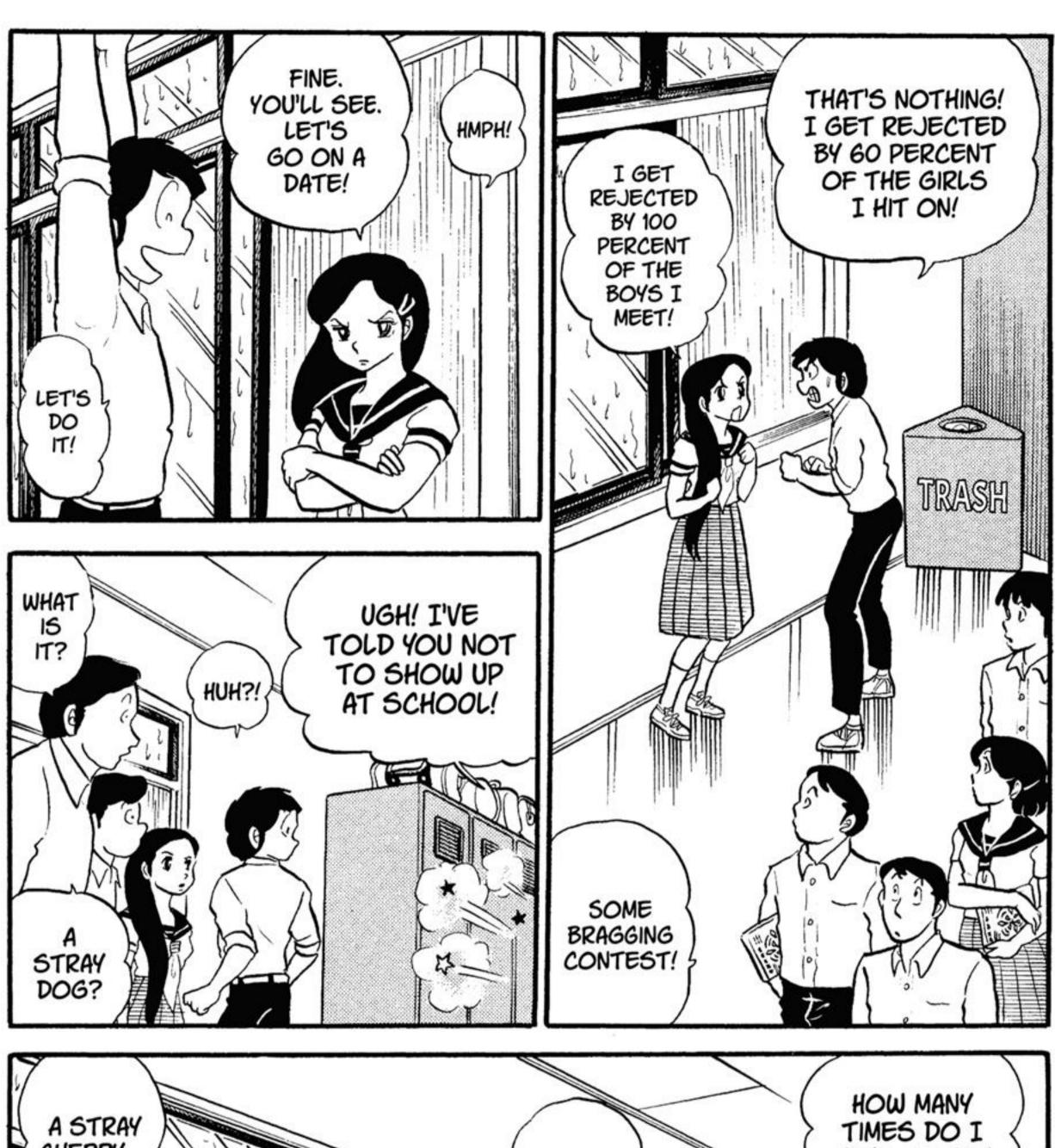


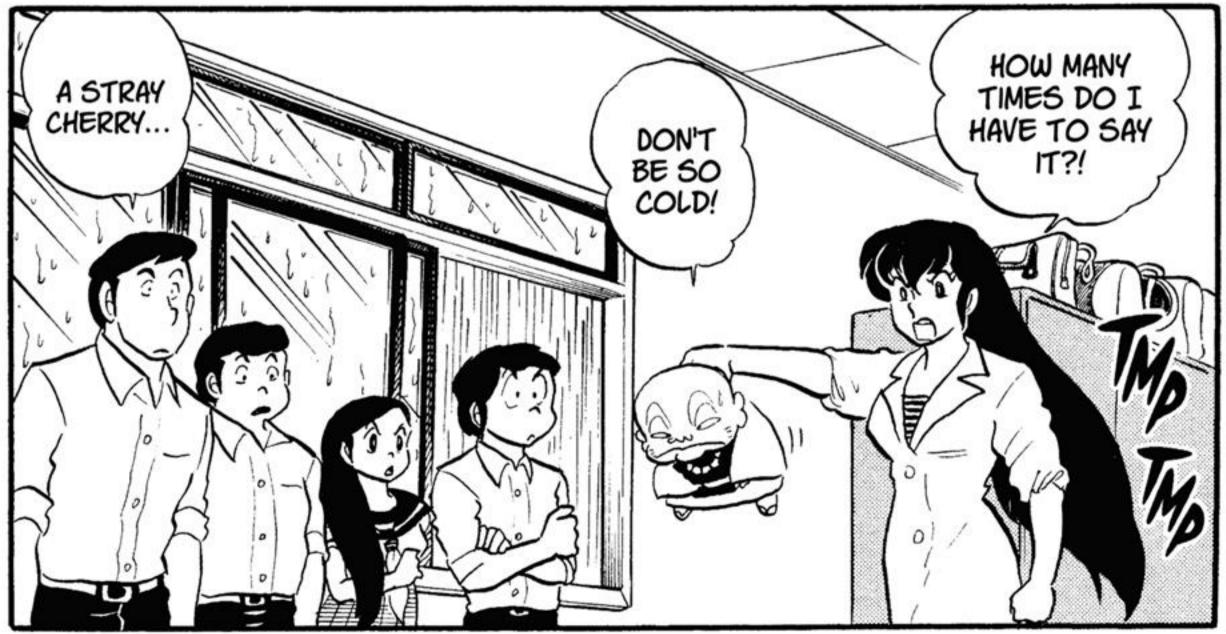




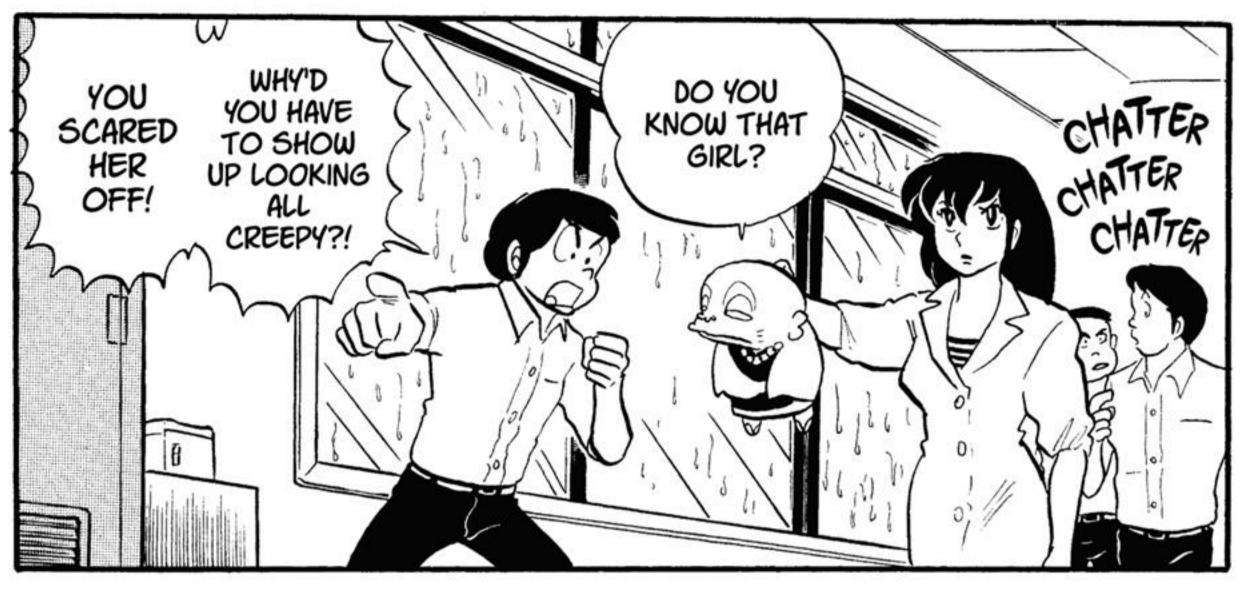


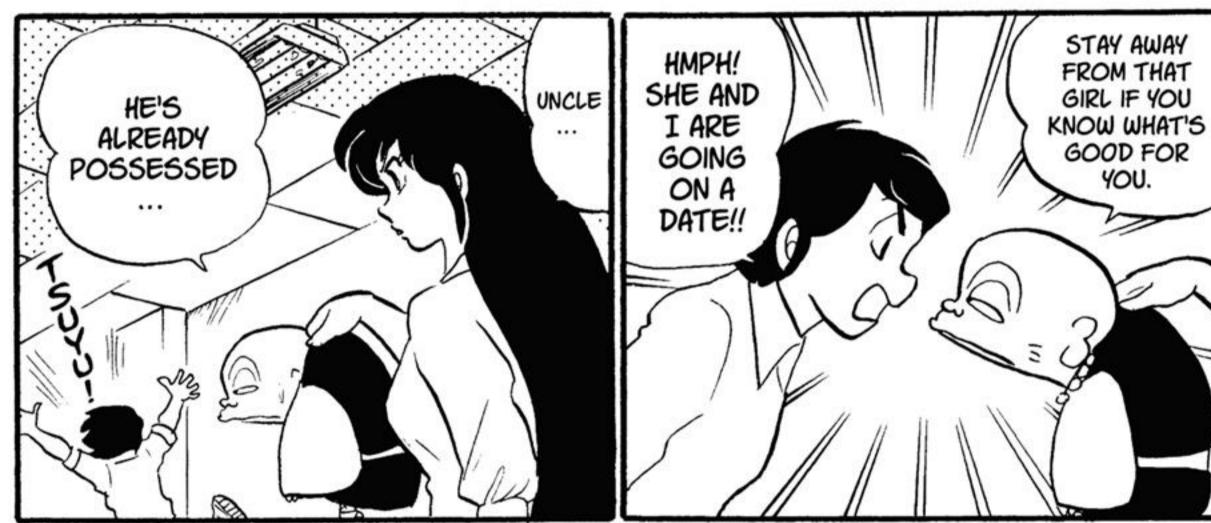


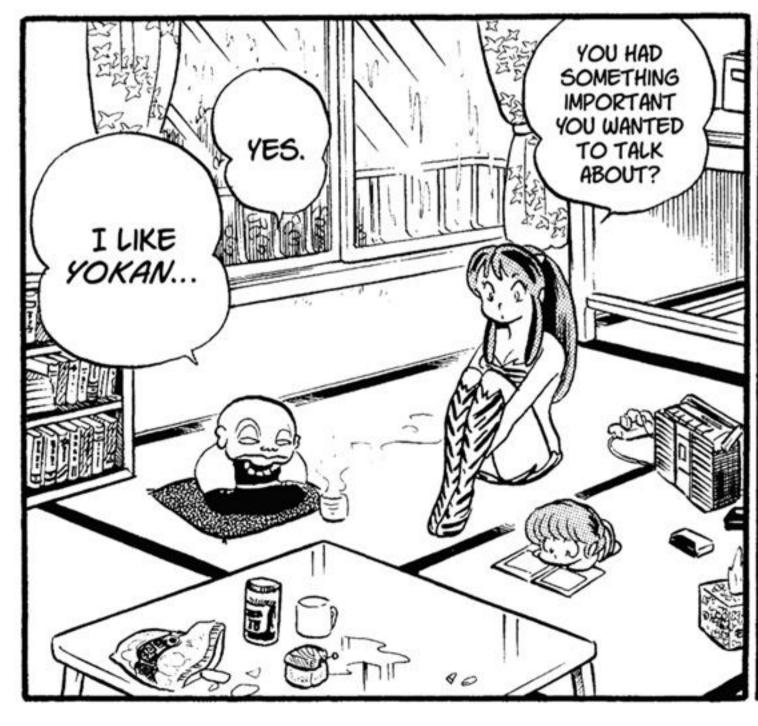




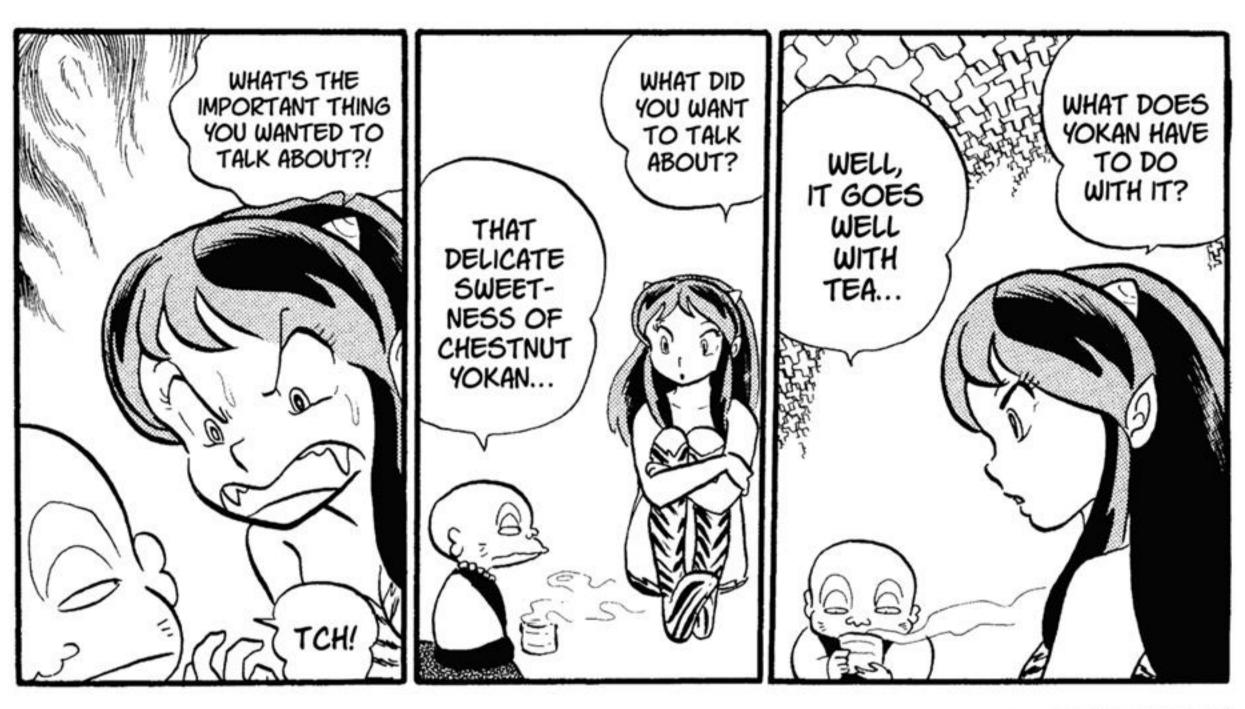


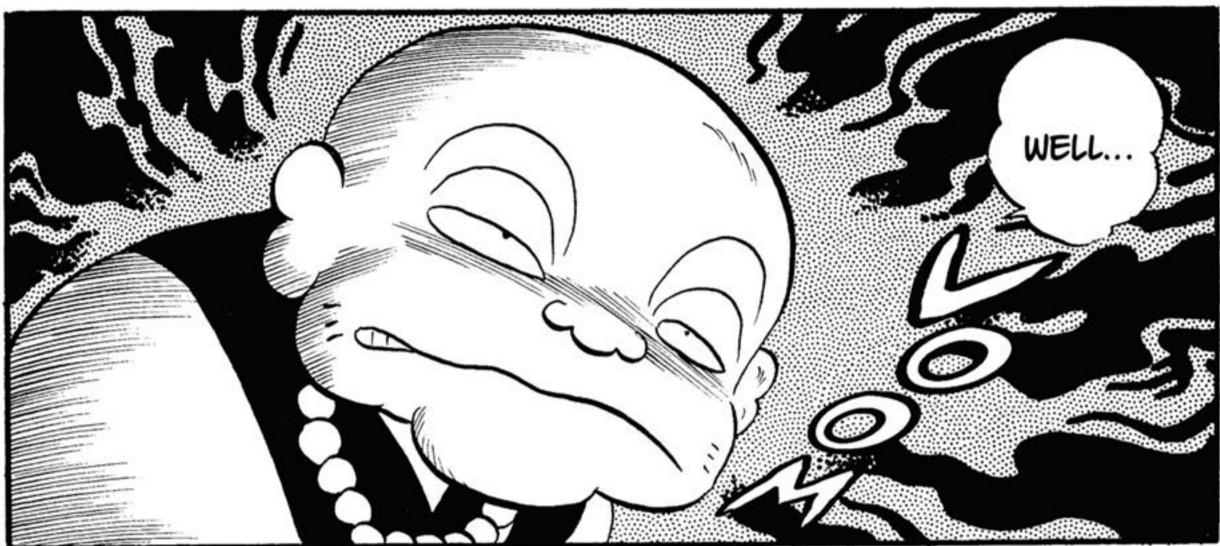


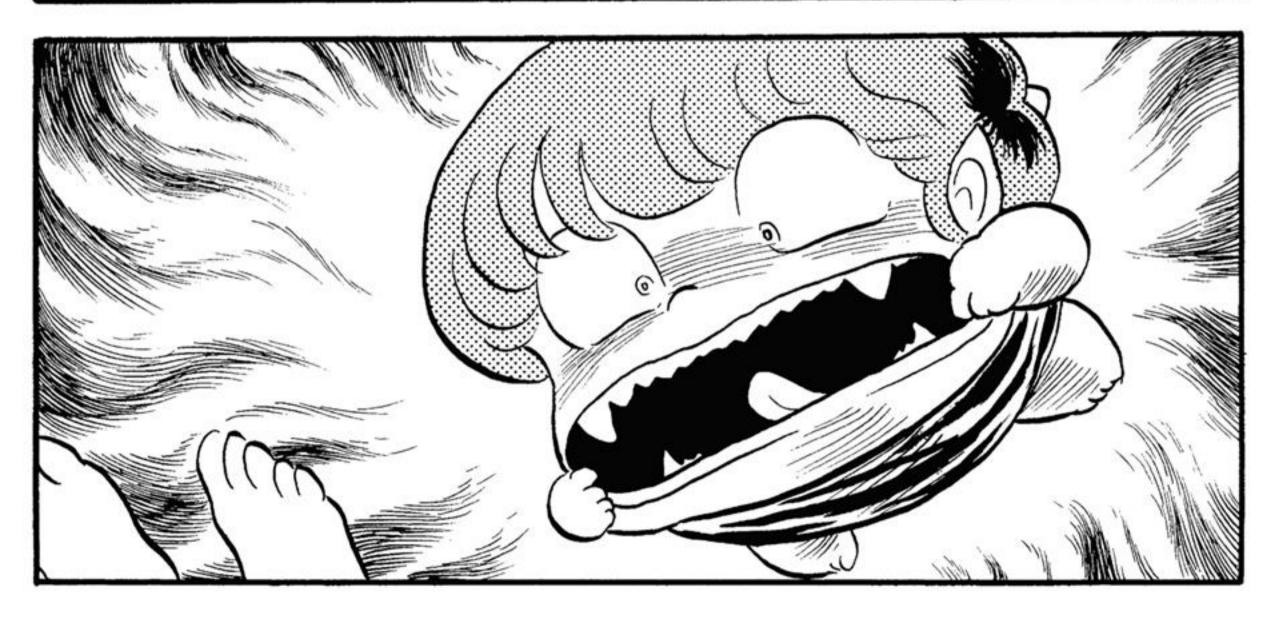


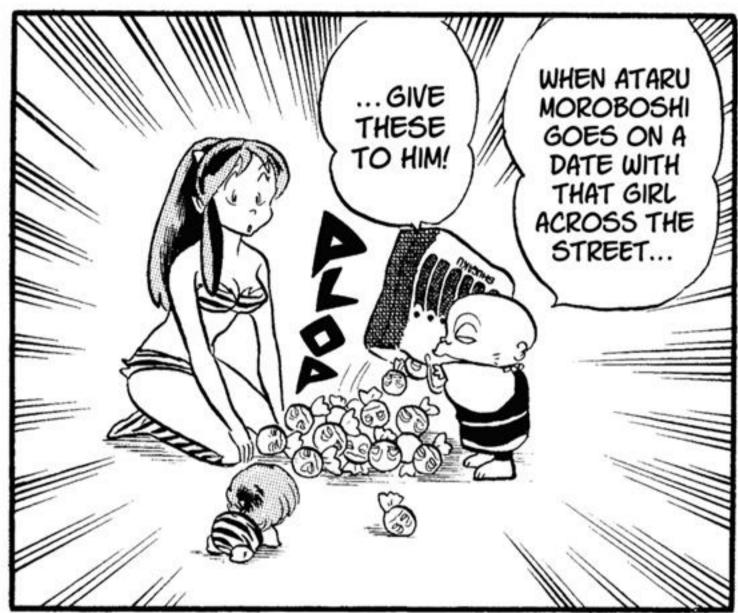




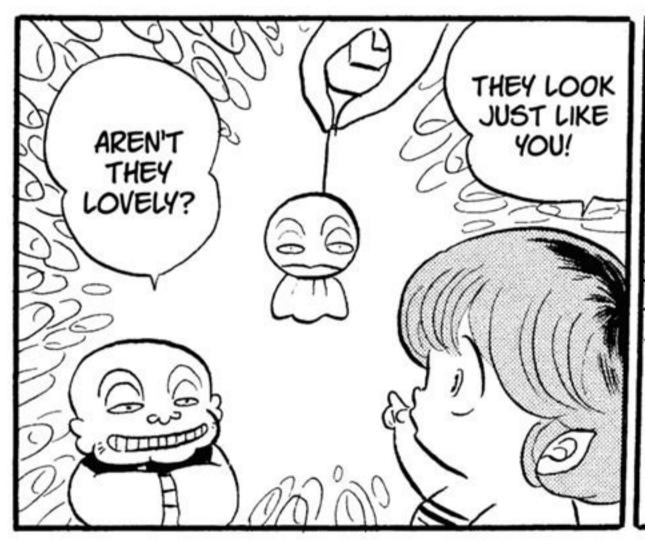


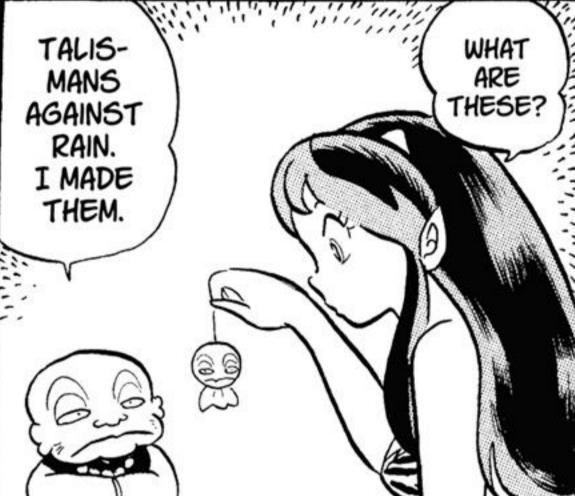


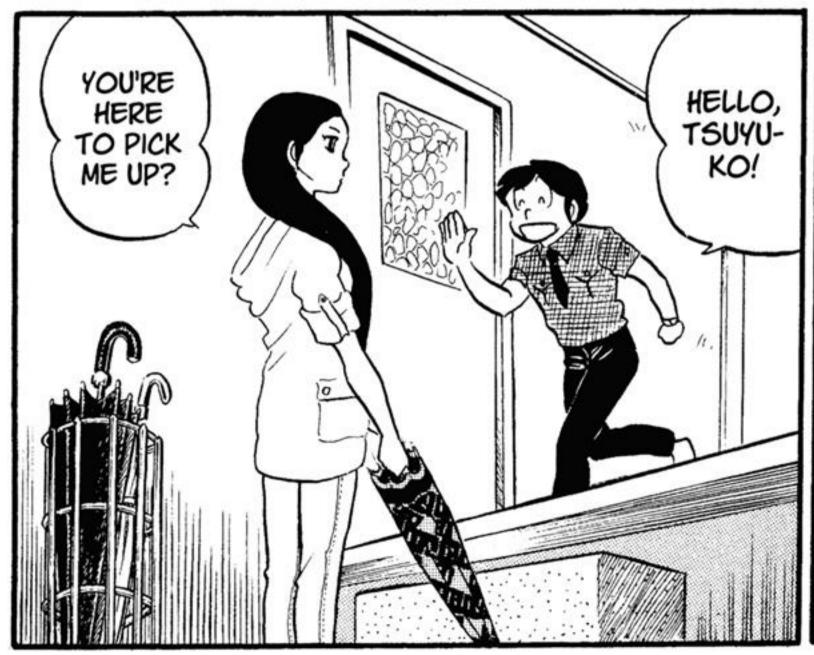










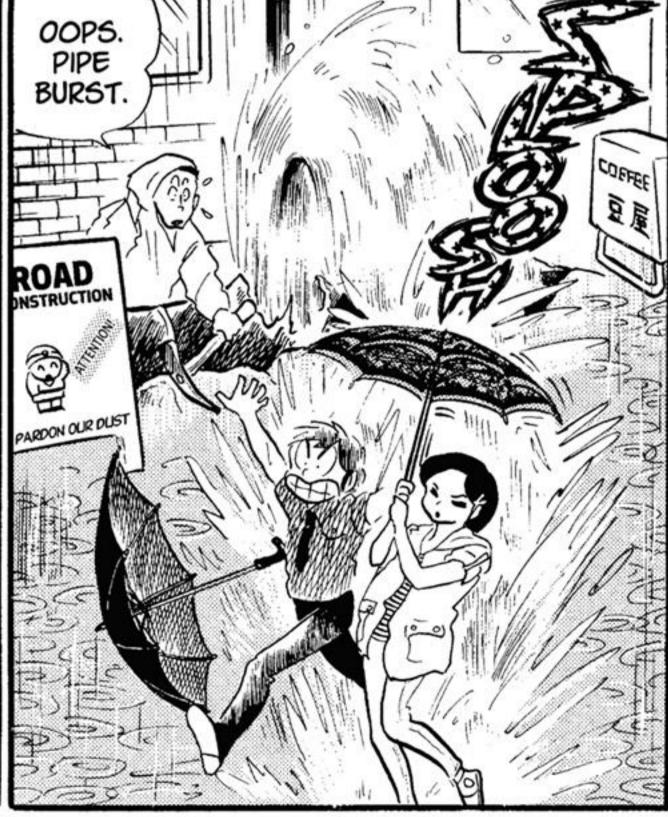






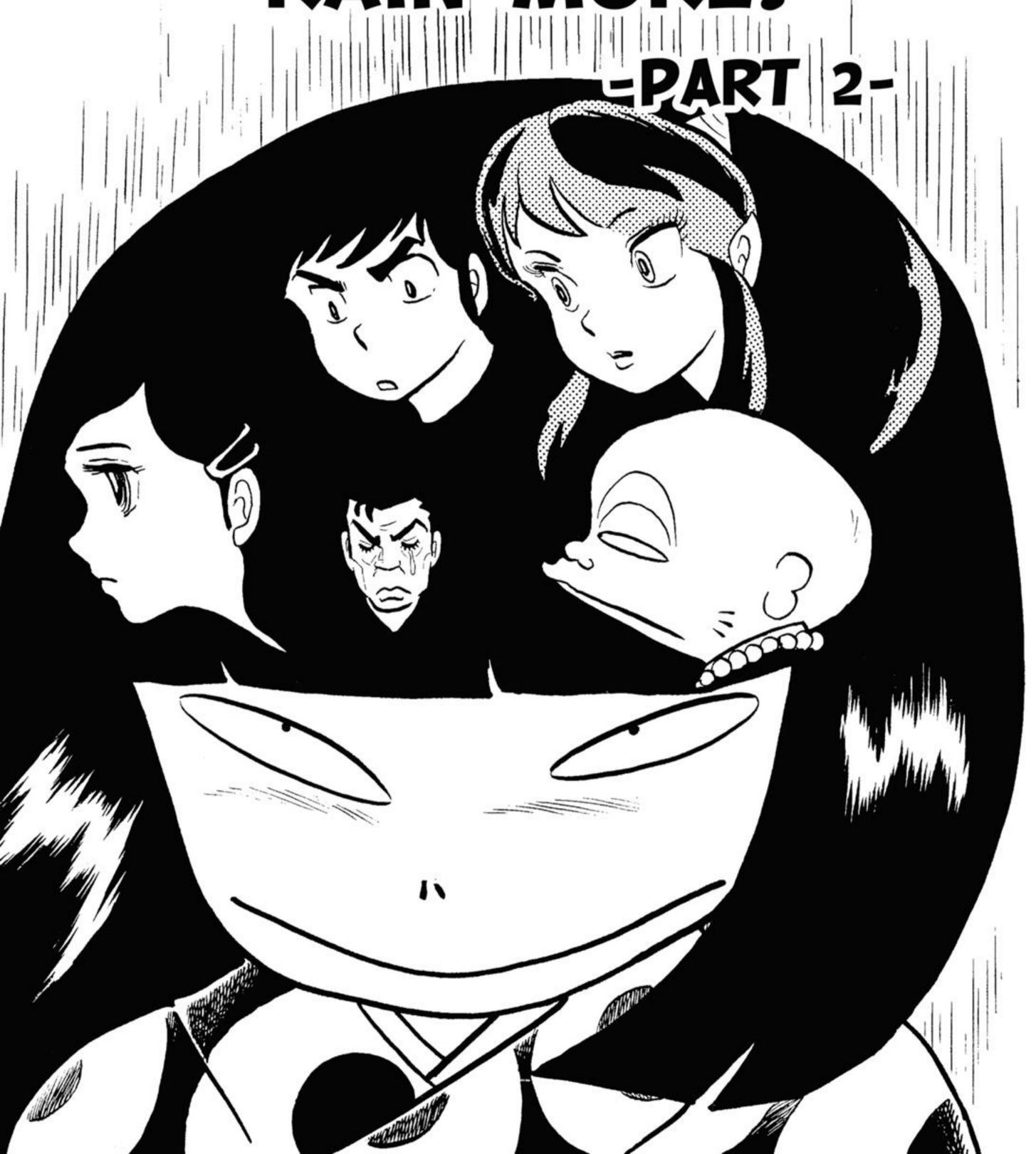








CHAPTER 13: O, RAIN! RAIN AND RAIN MORE!

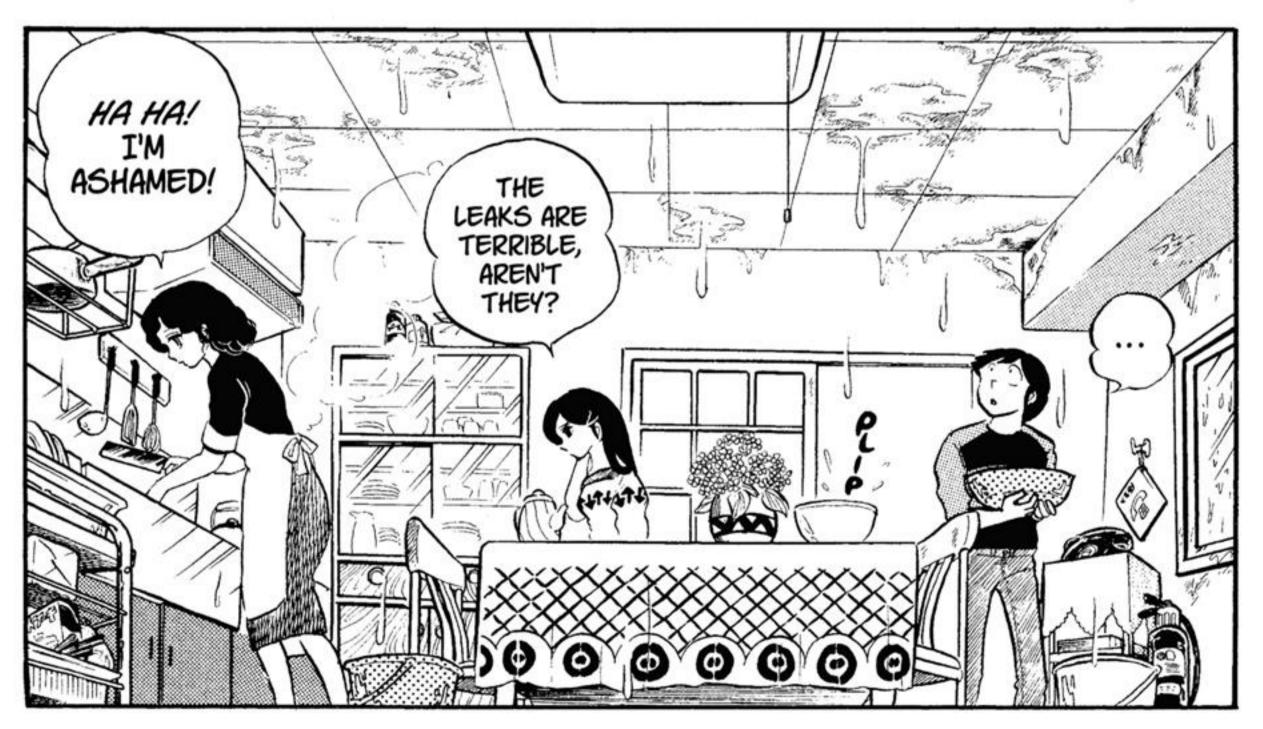














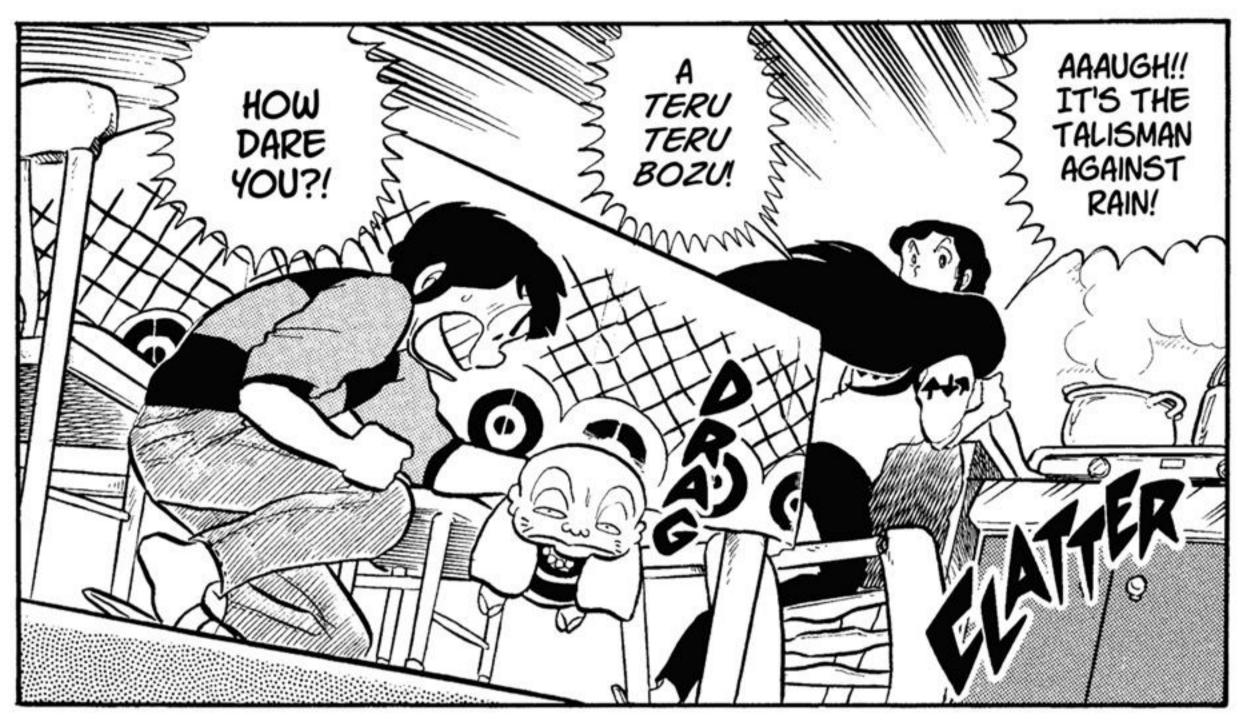


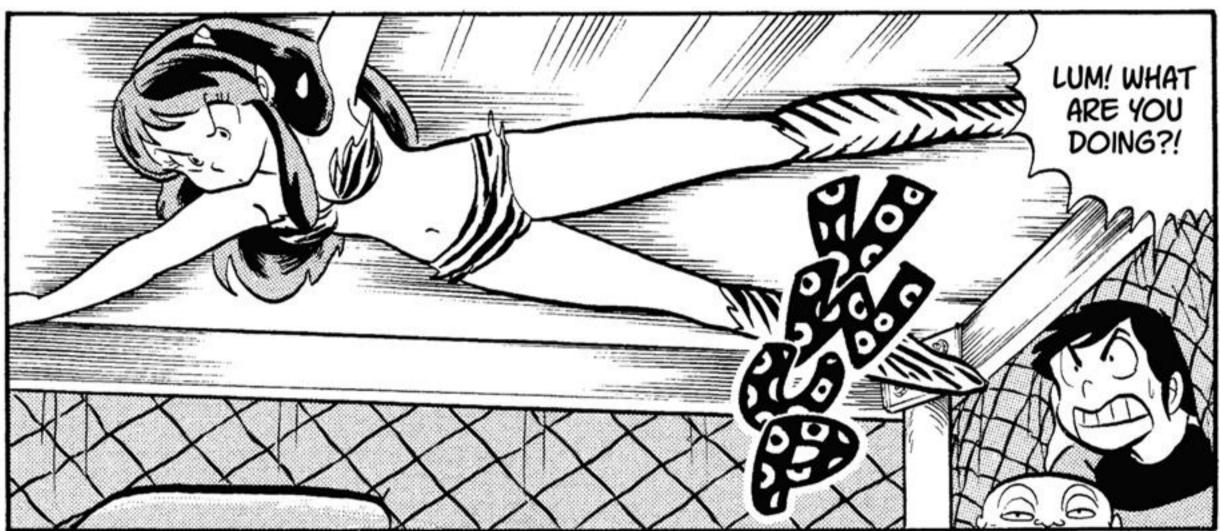


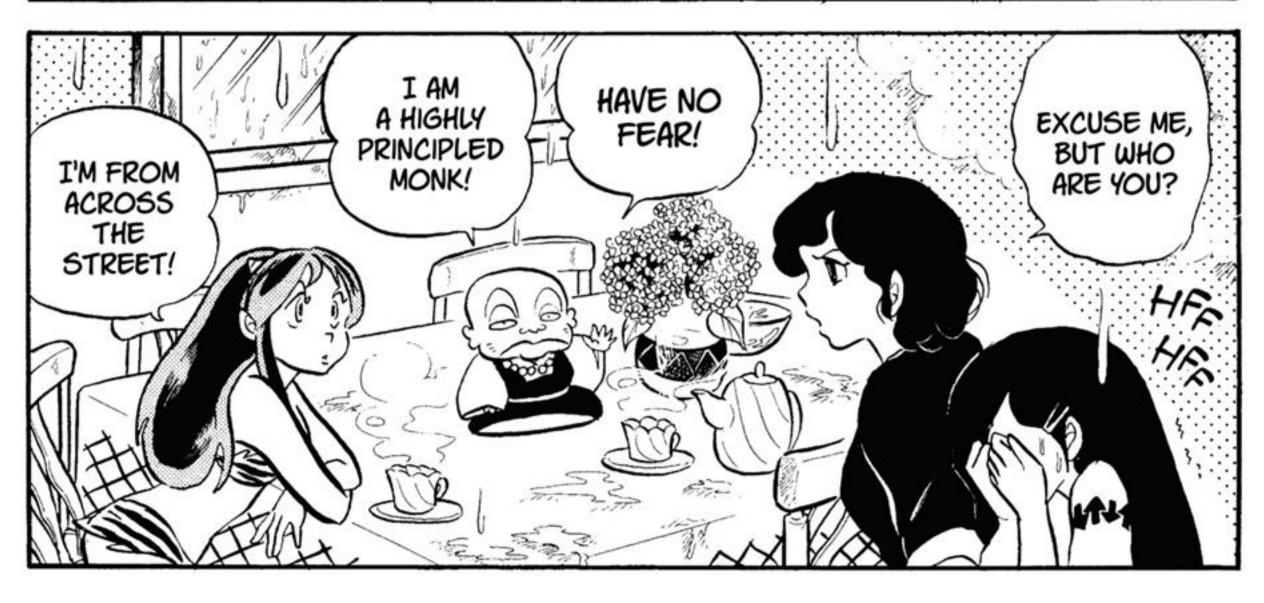


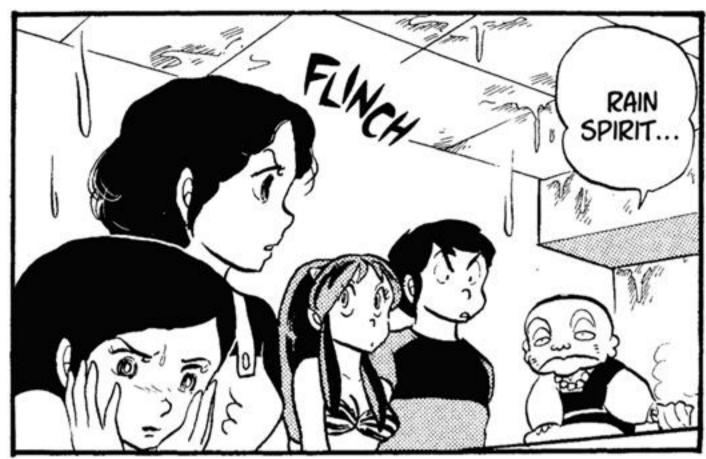




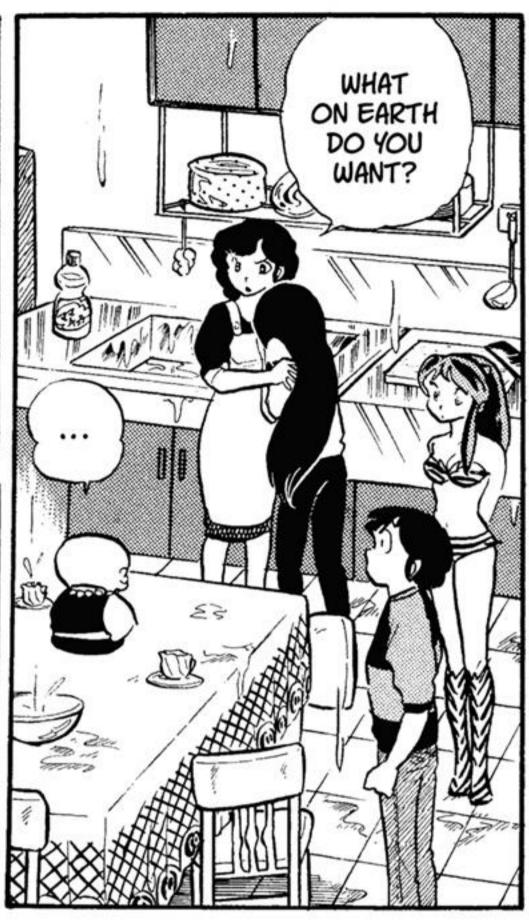


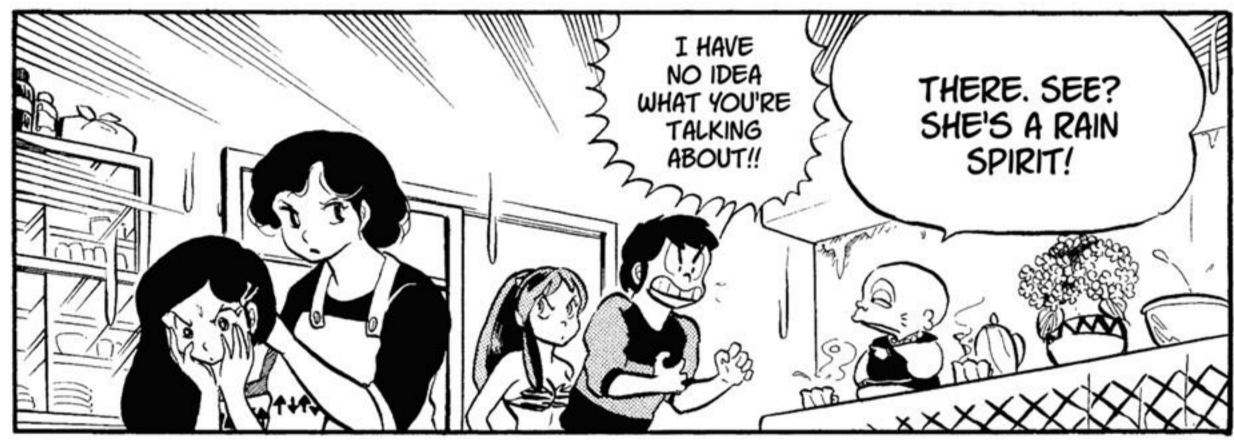


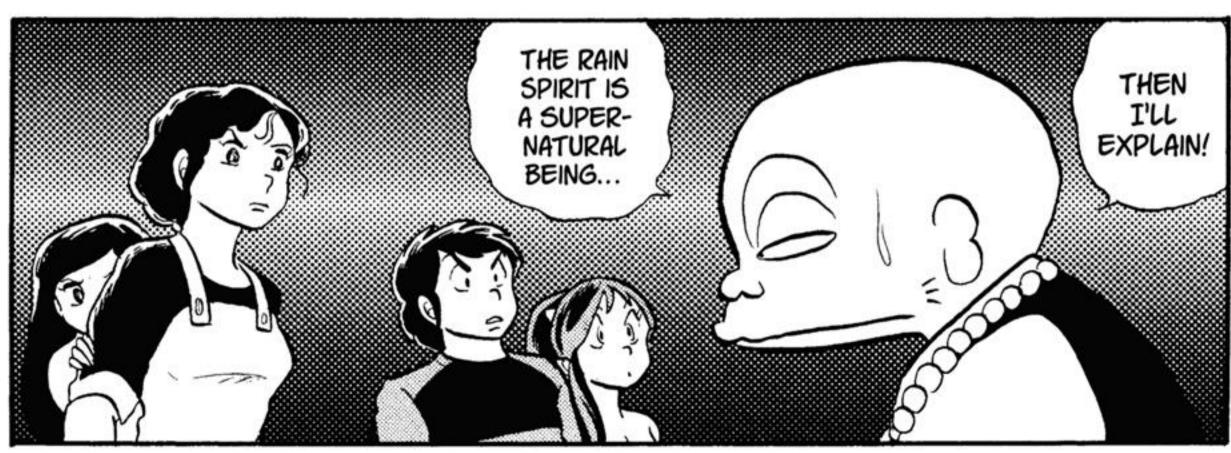


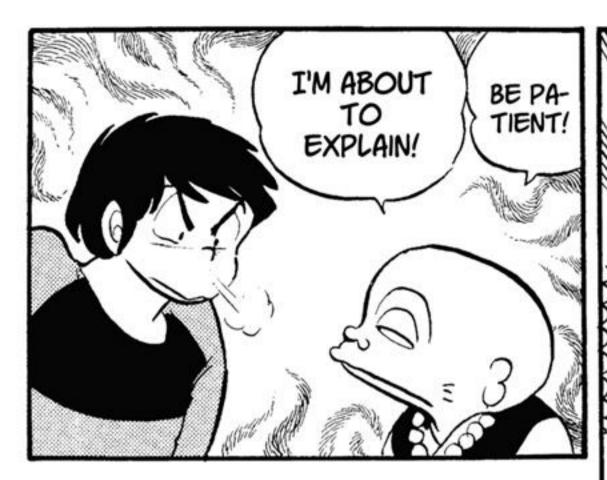






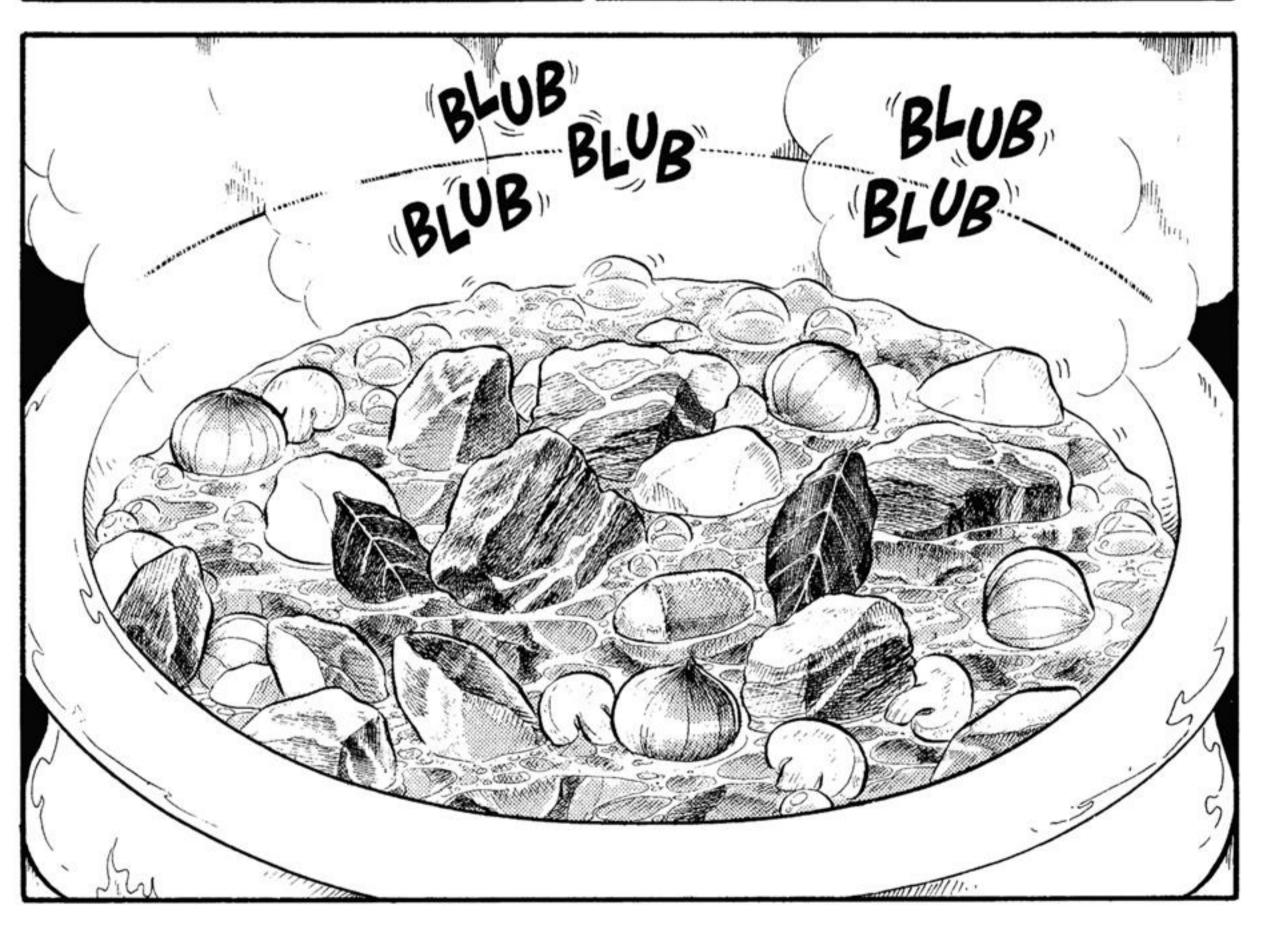


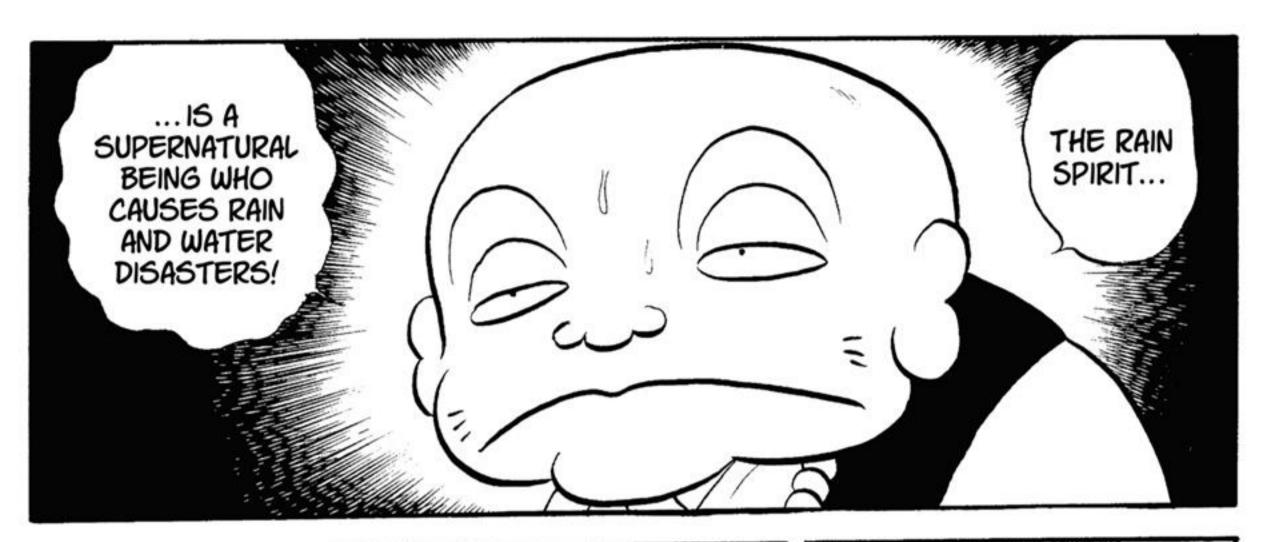










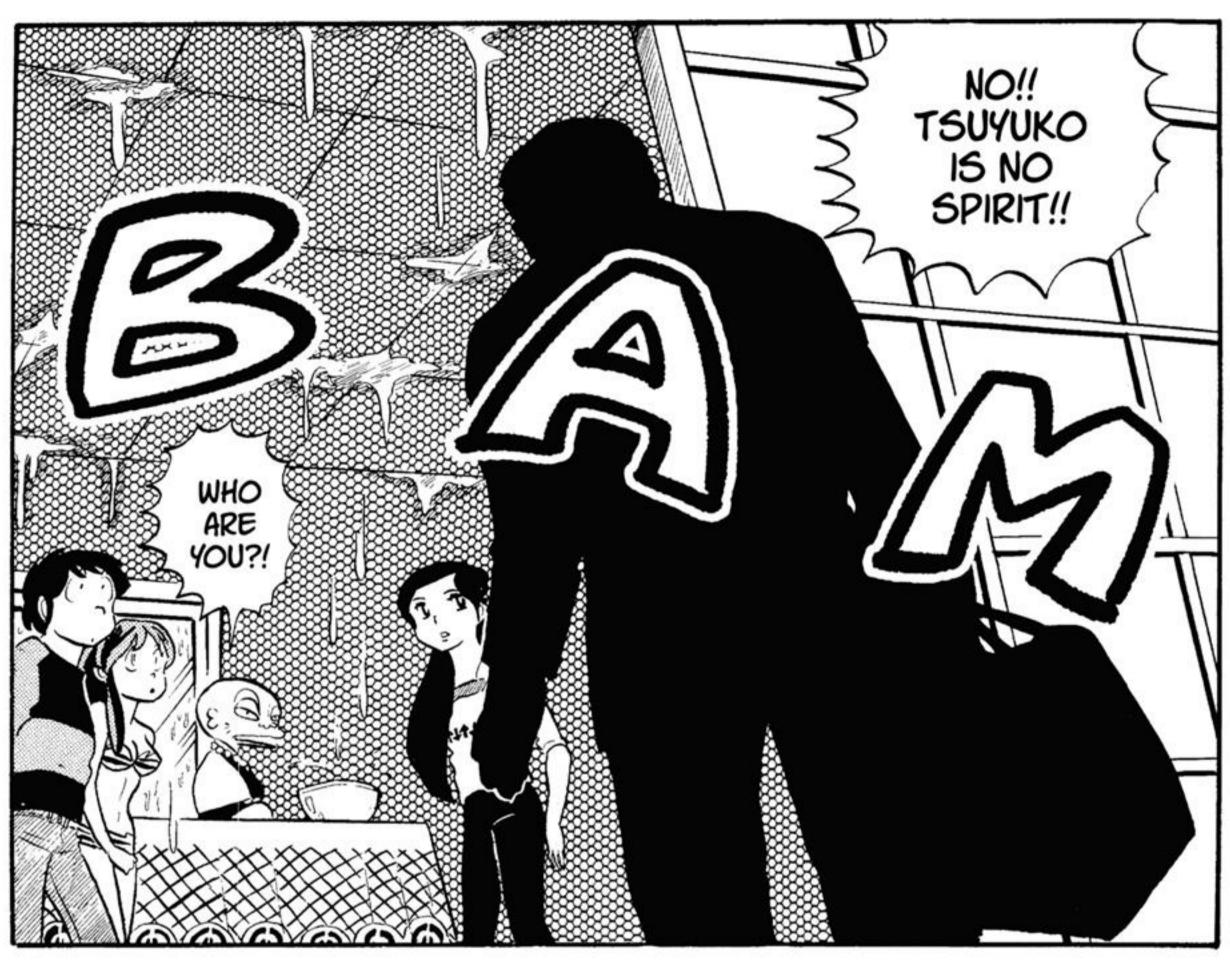






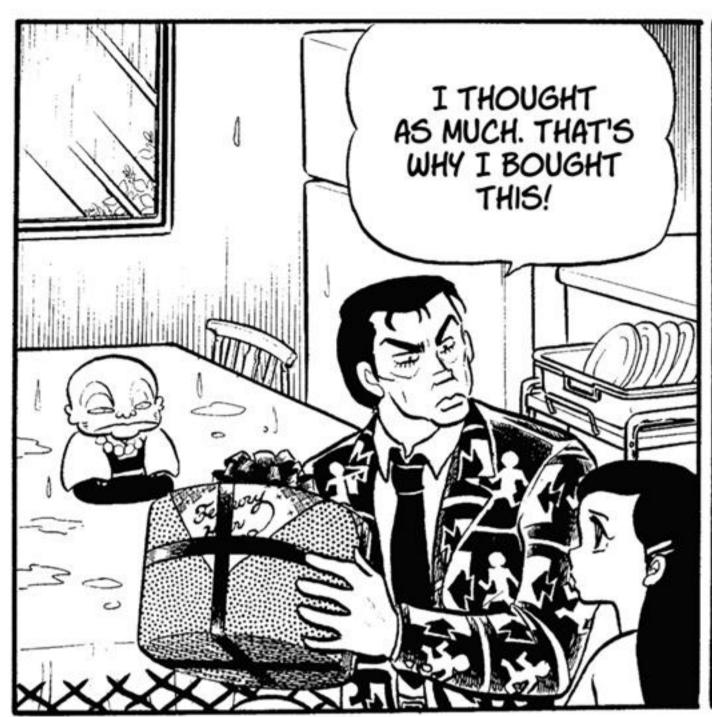






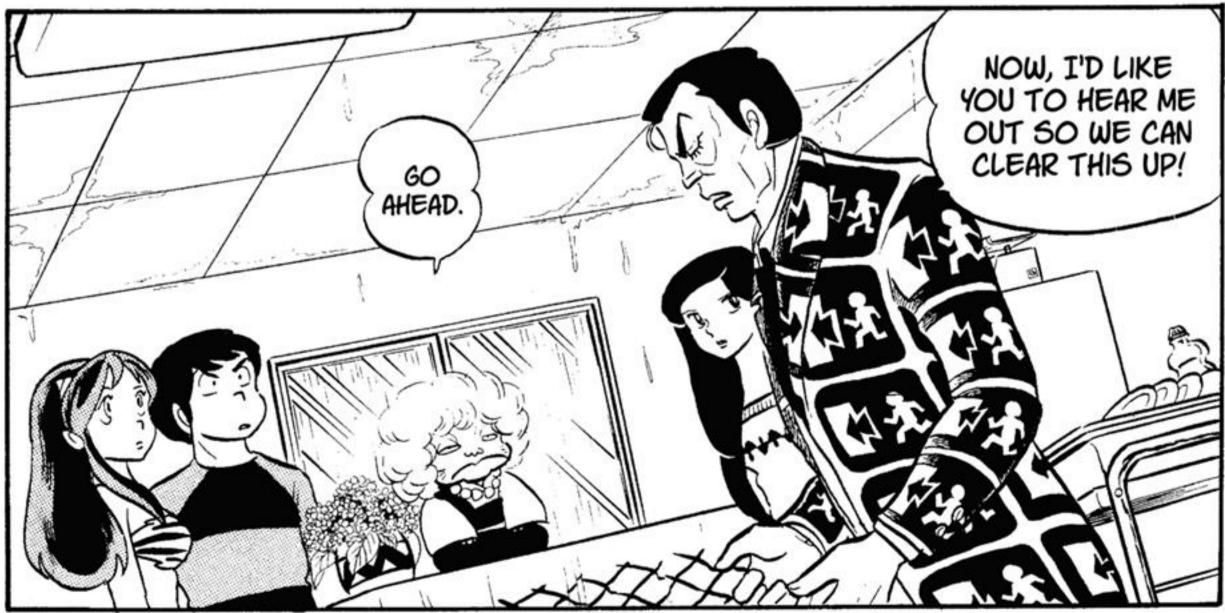








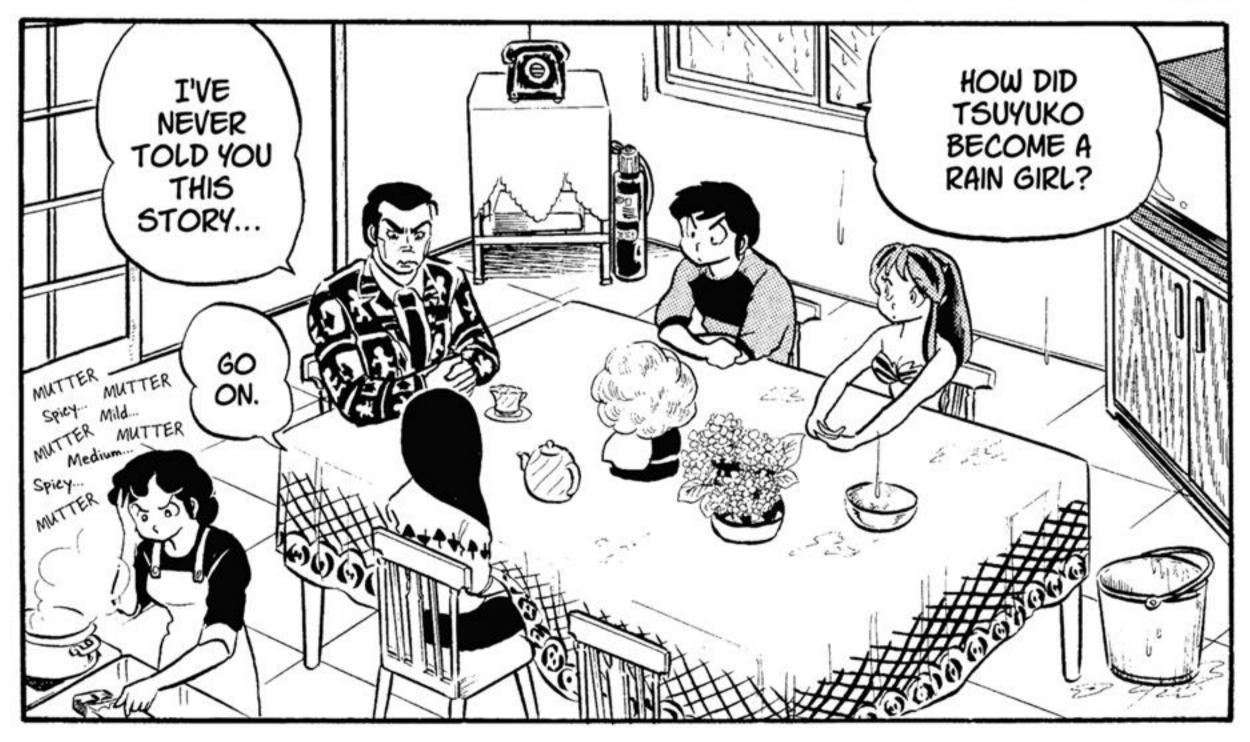


















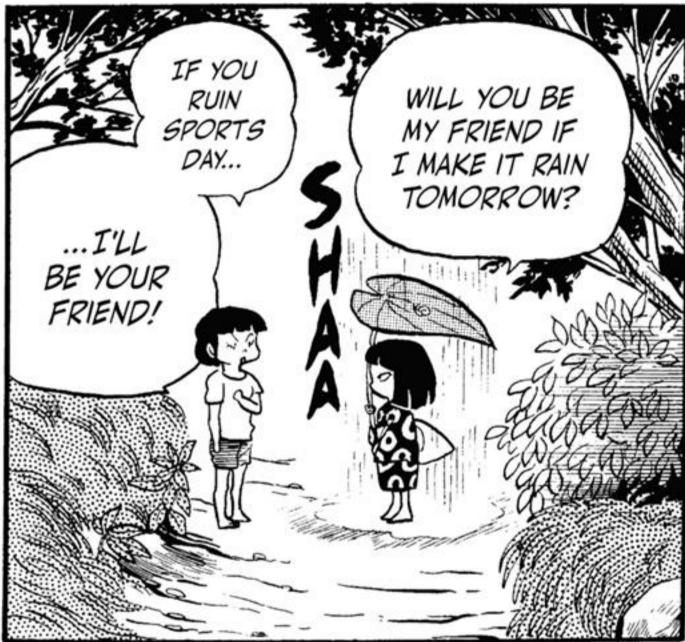








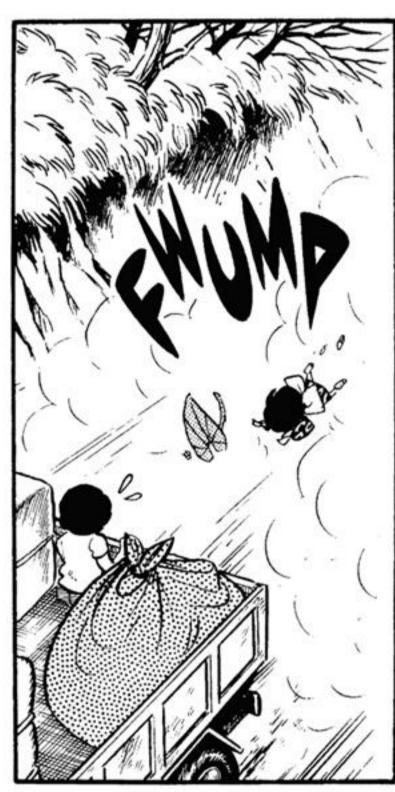




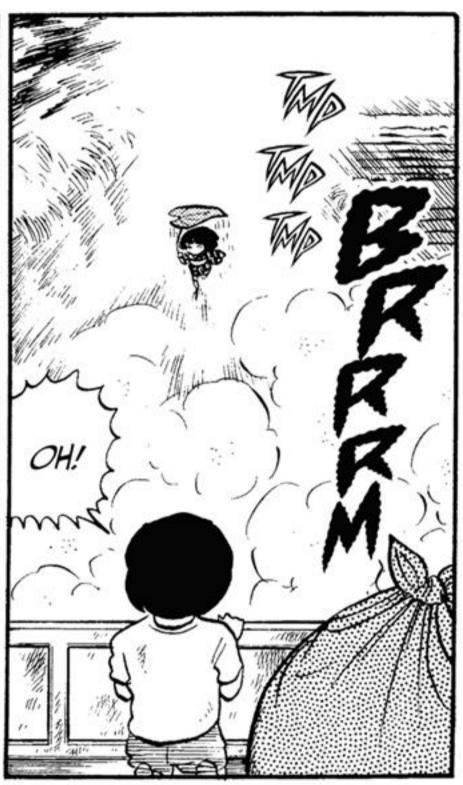


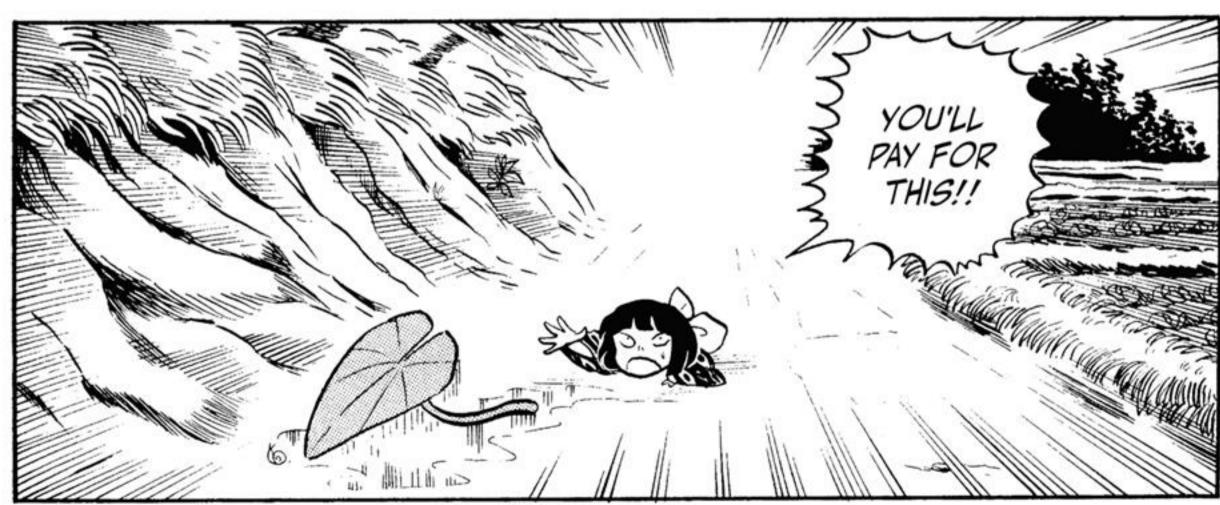
















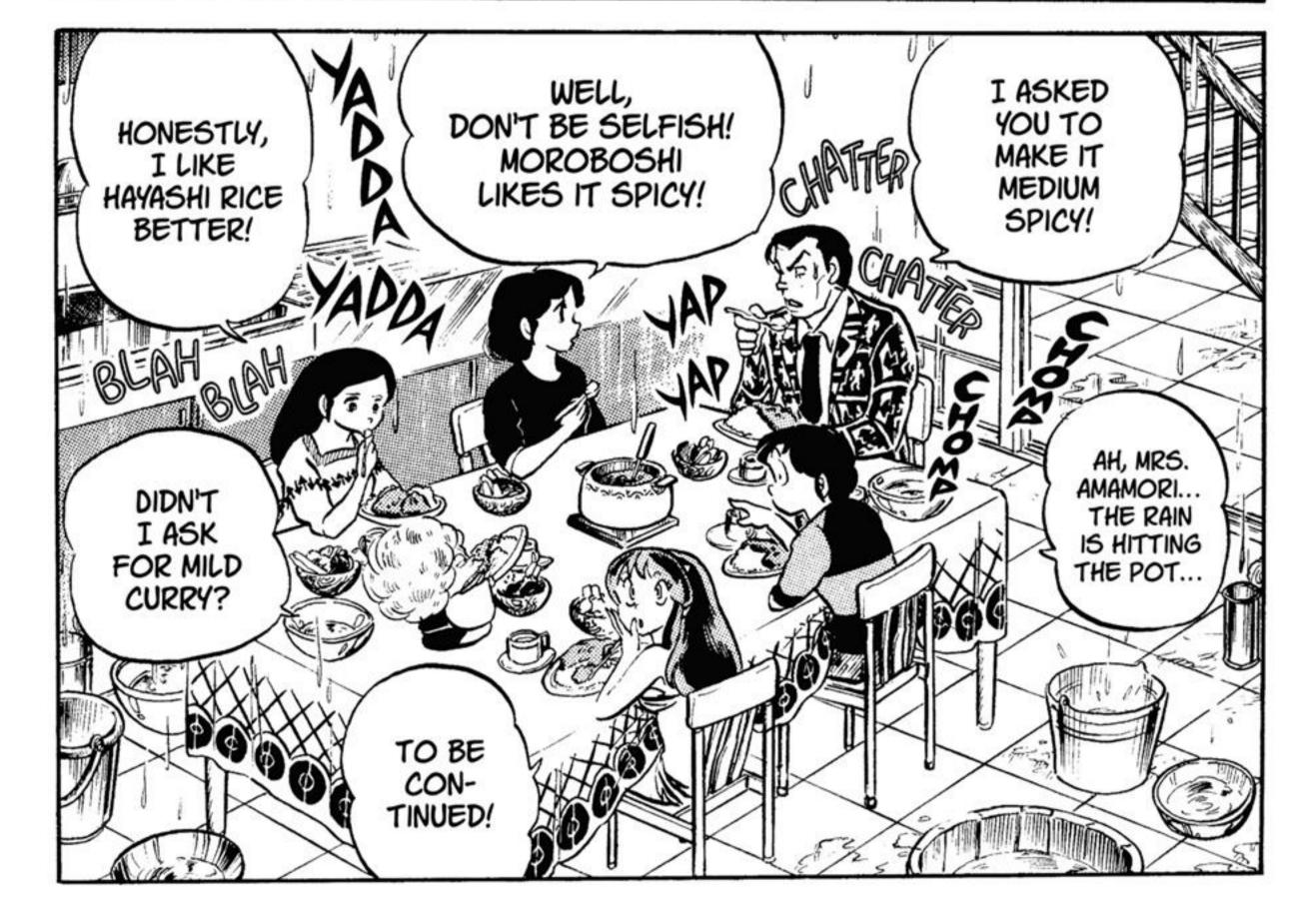












CHAPTER 14:
O, RAIN! RAIN AND
RAIN_MORE!





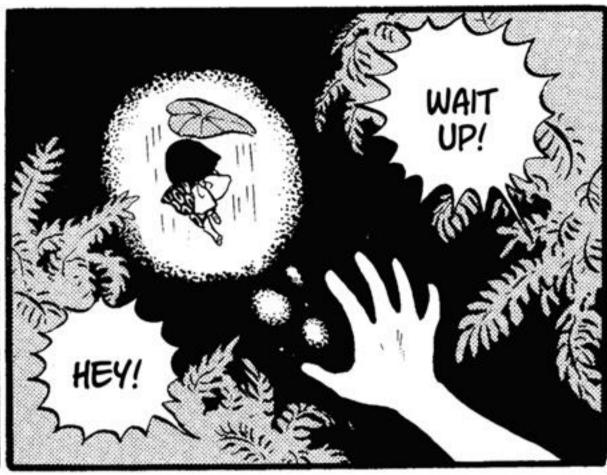


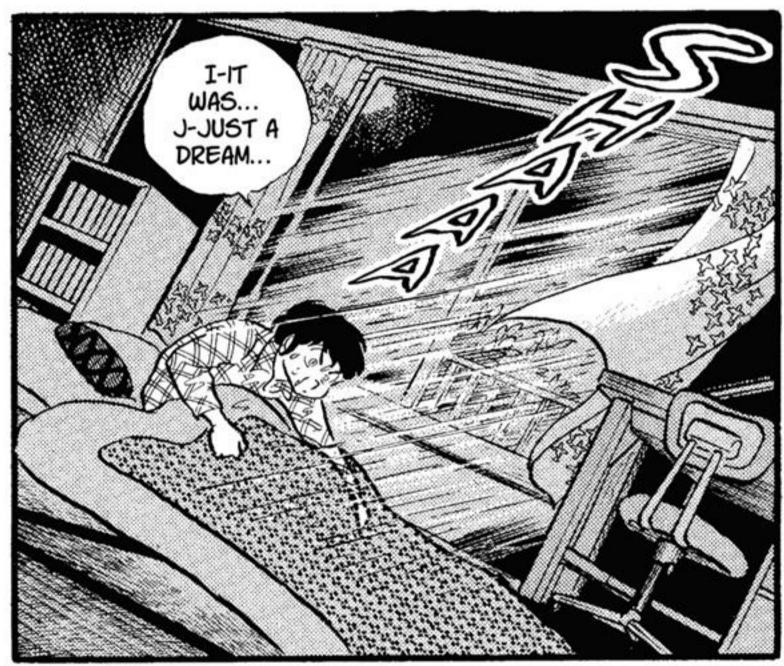
















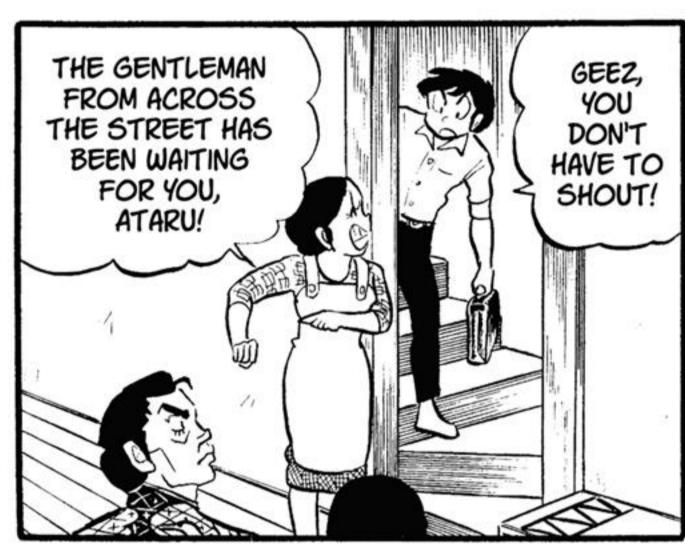








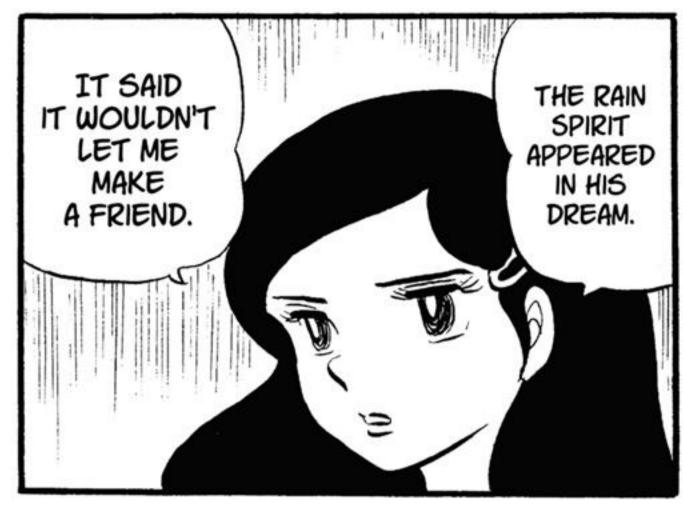












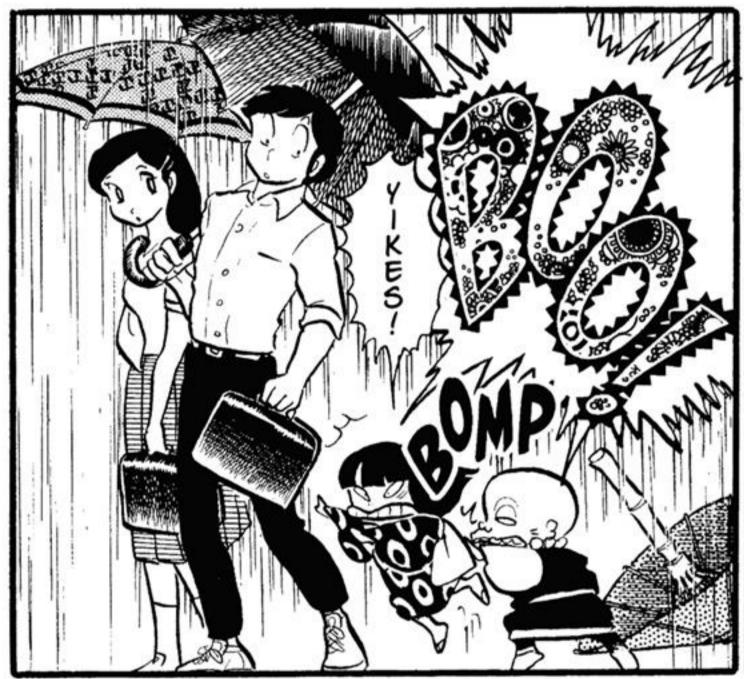




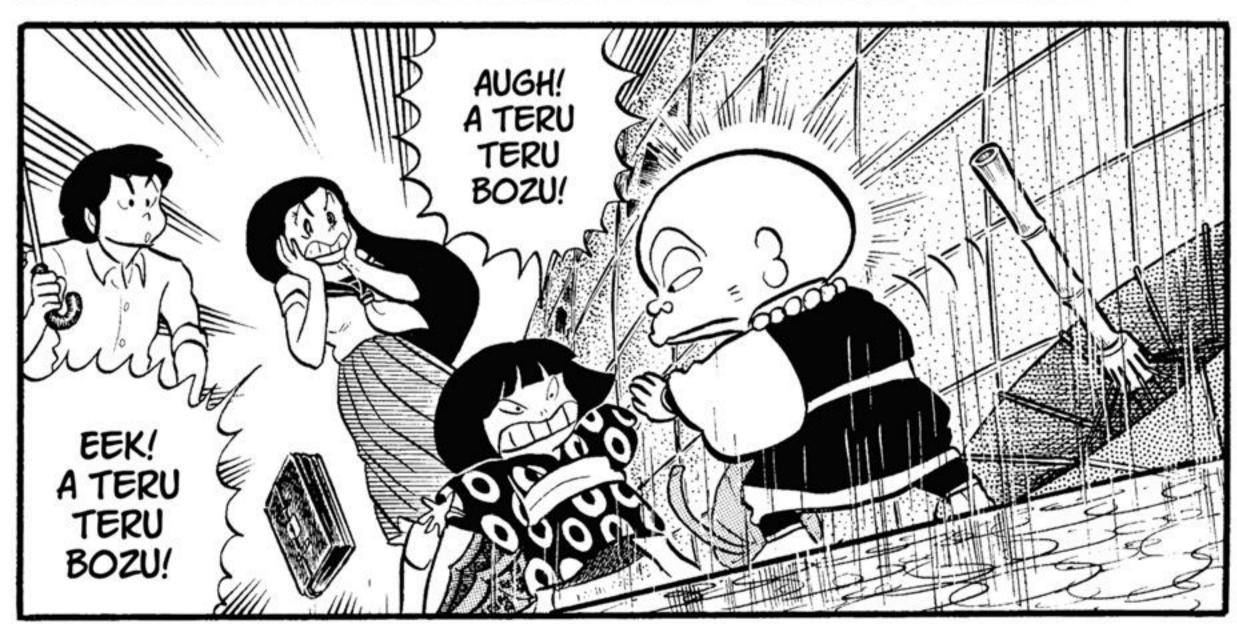




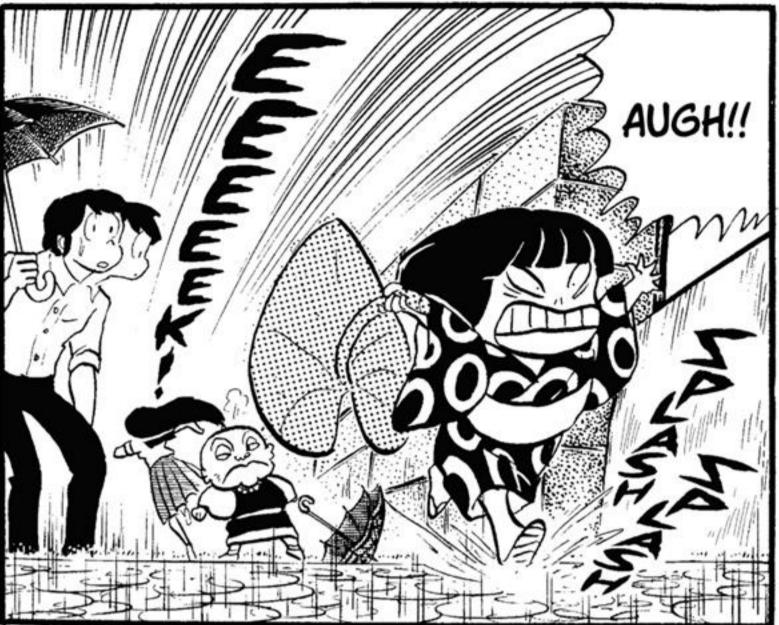








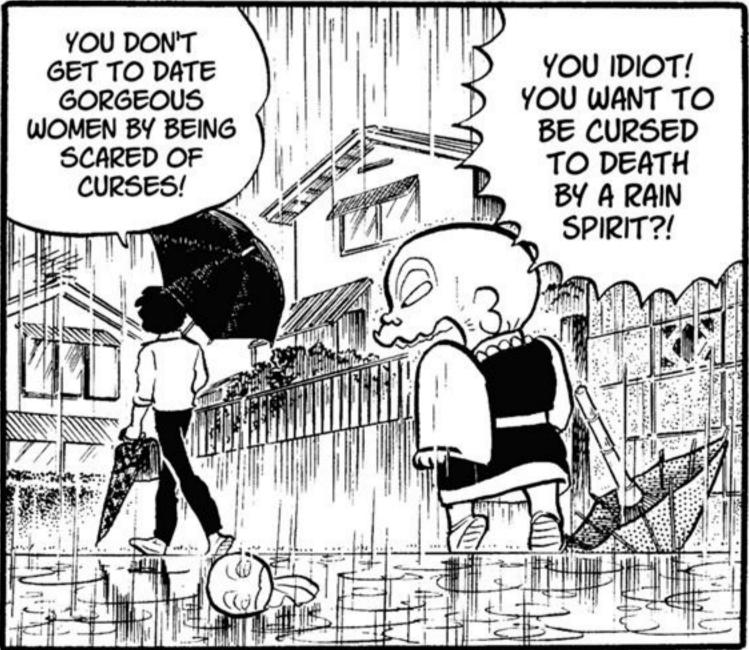


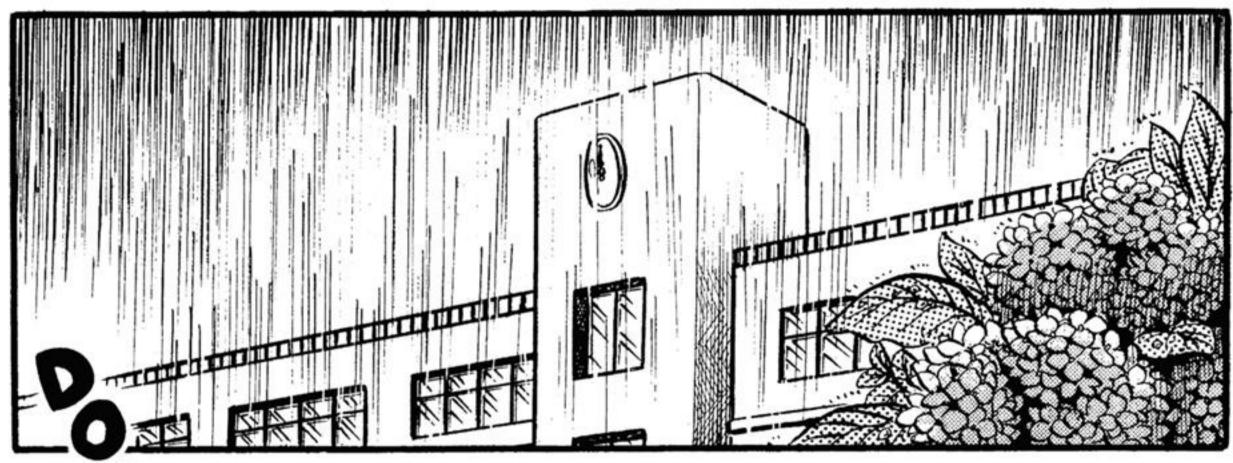














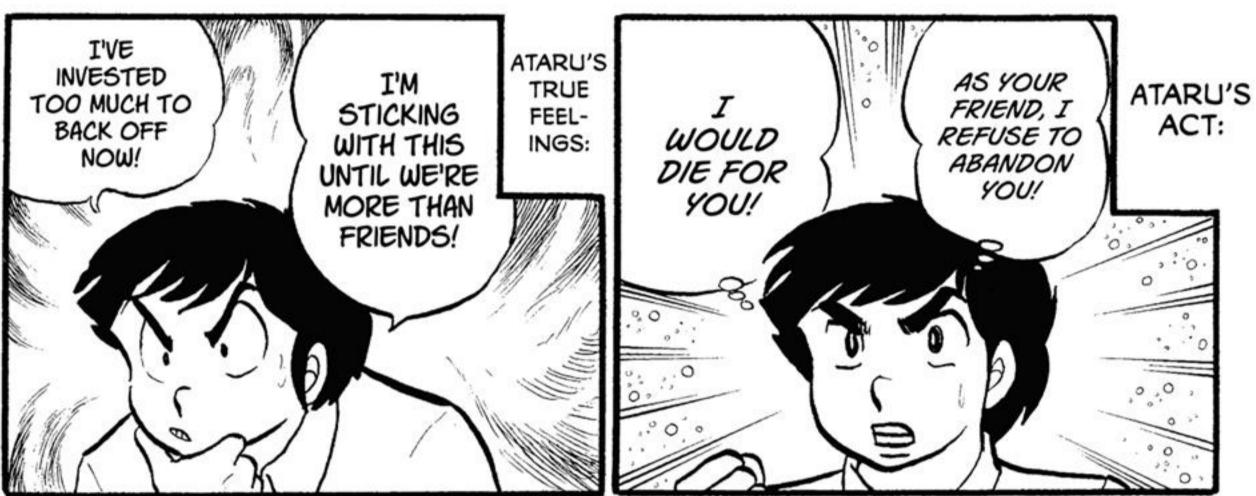
























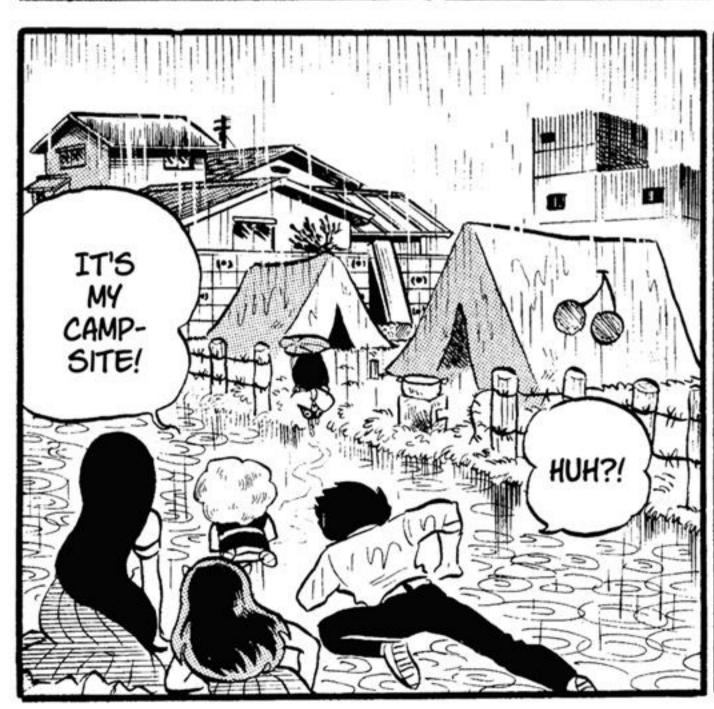




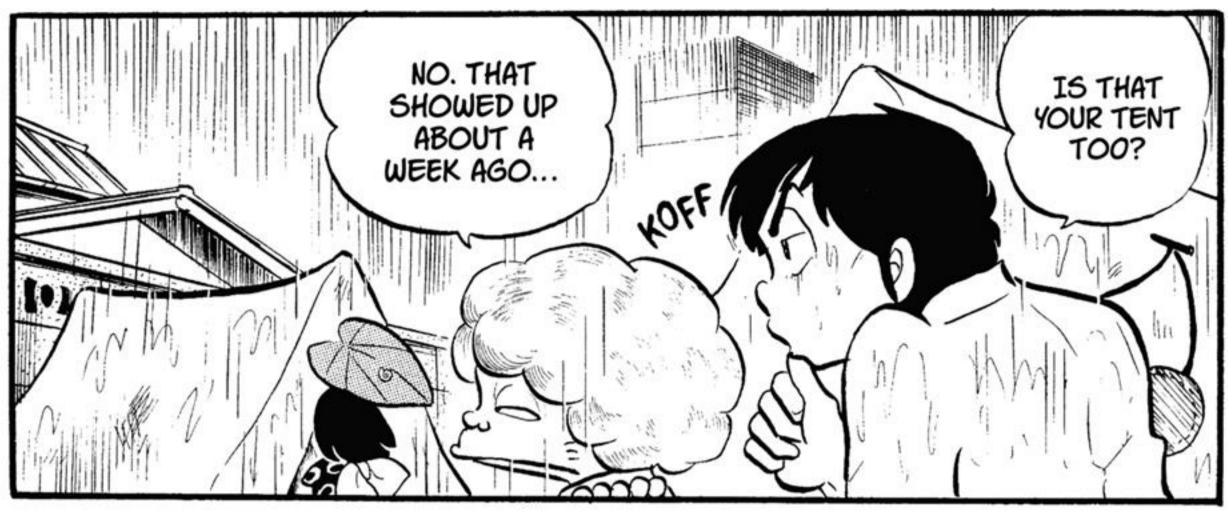












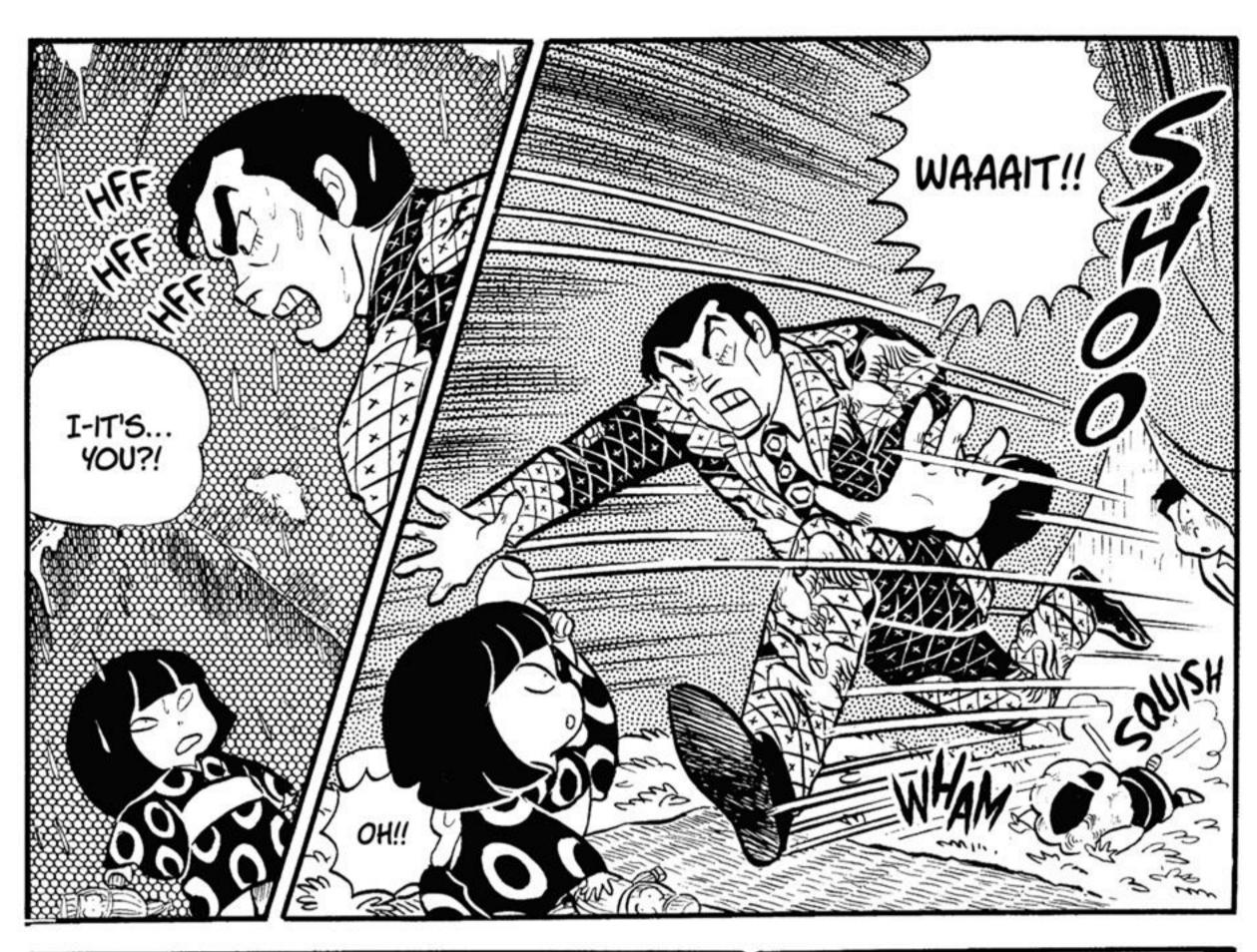
























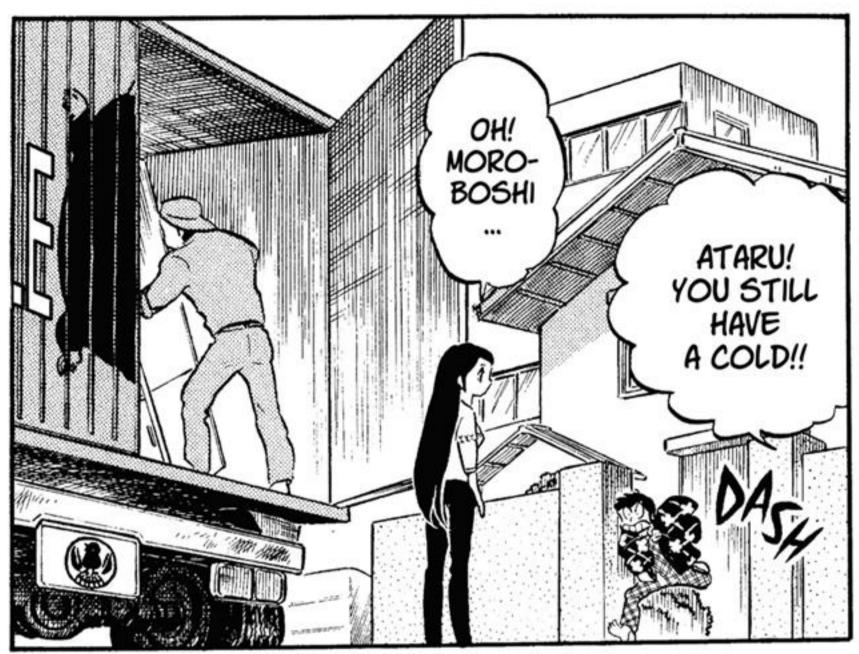




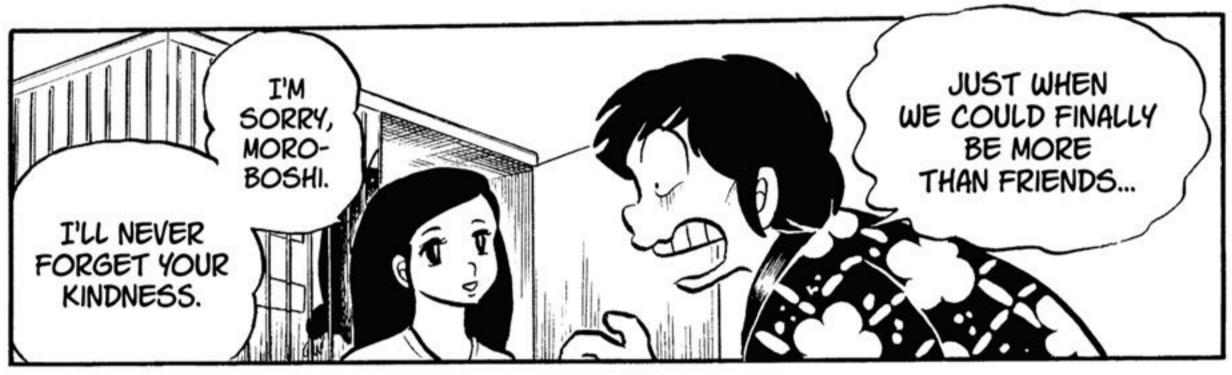


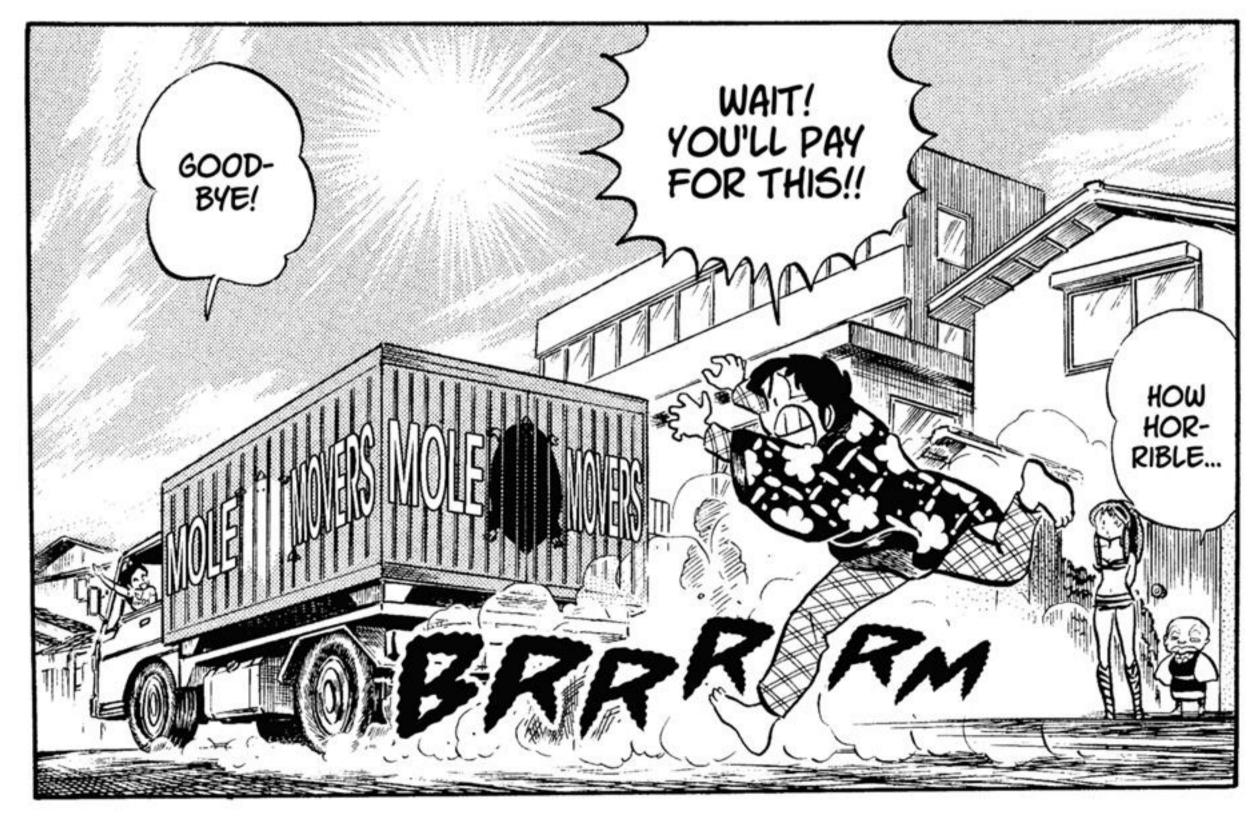




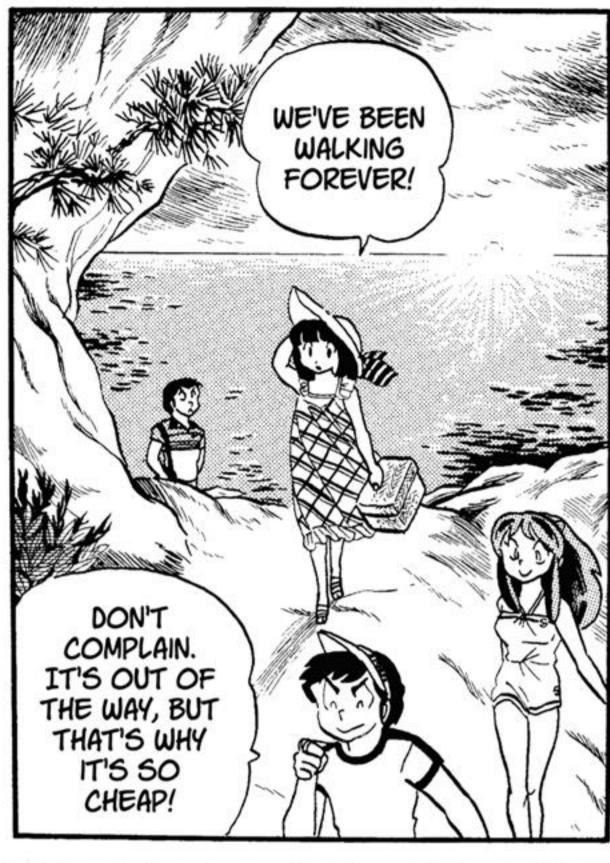




















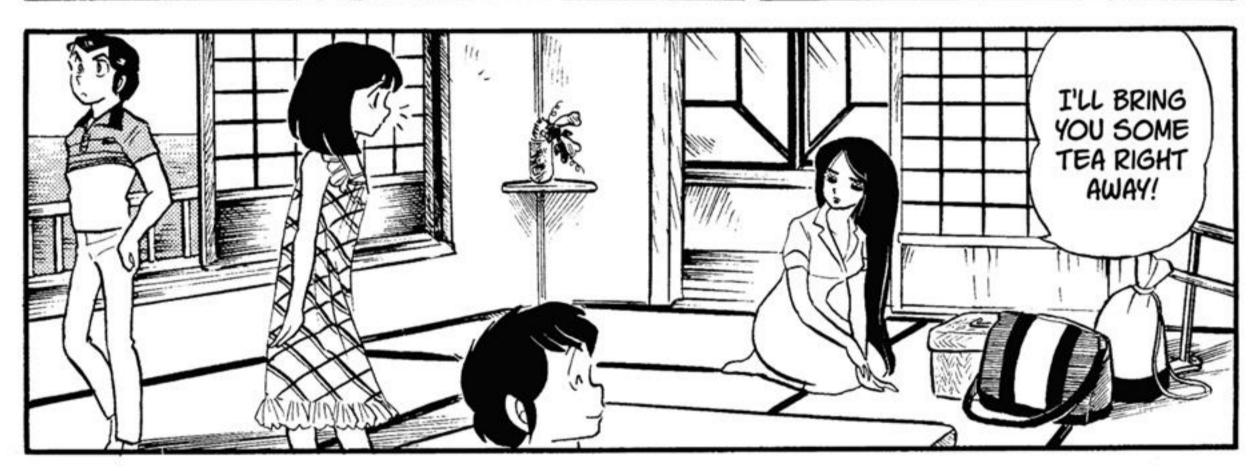




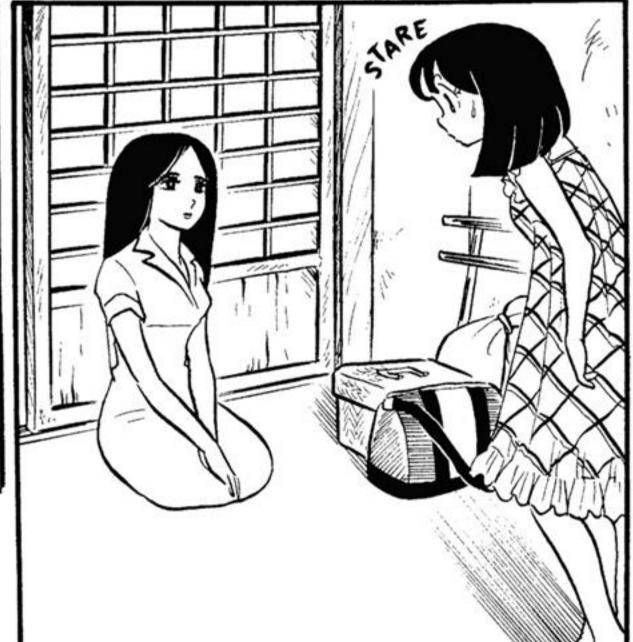


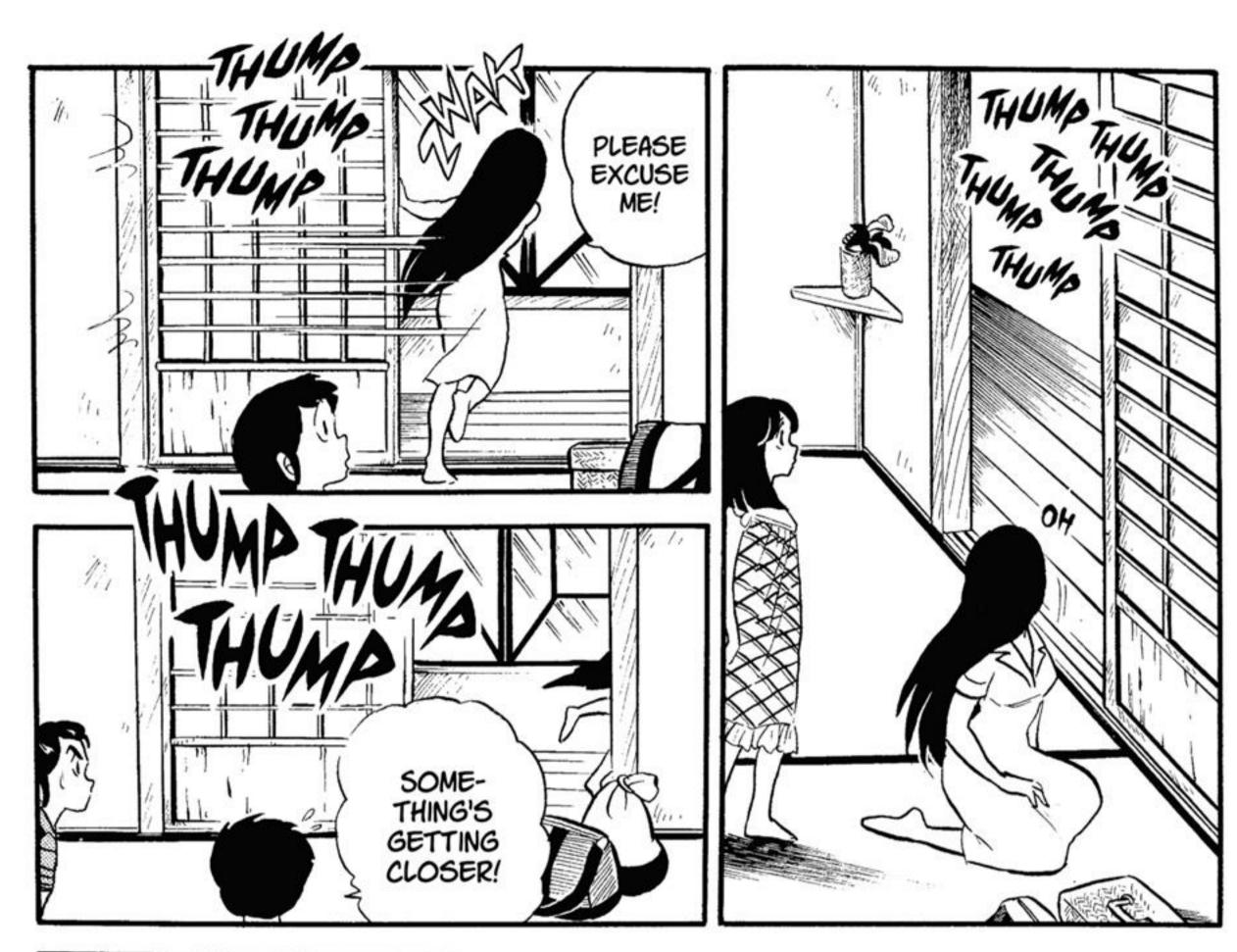




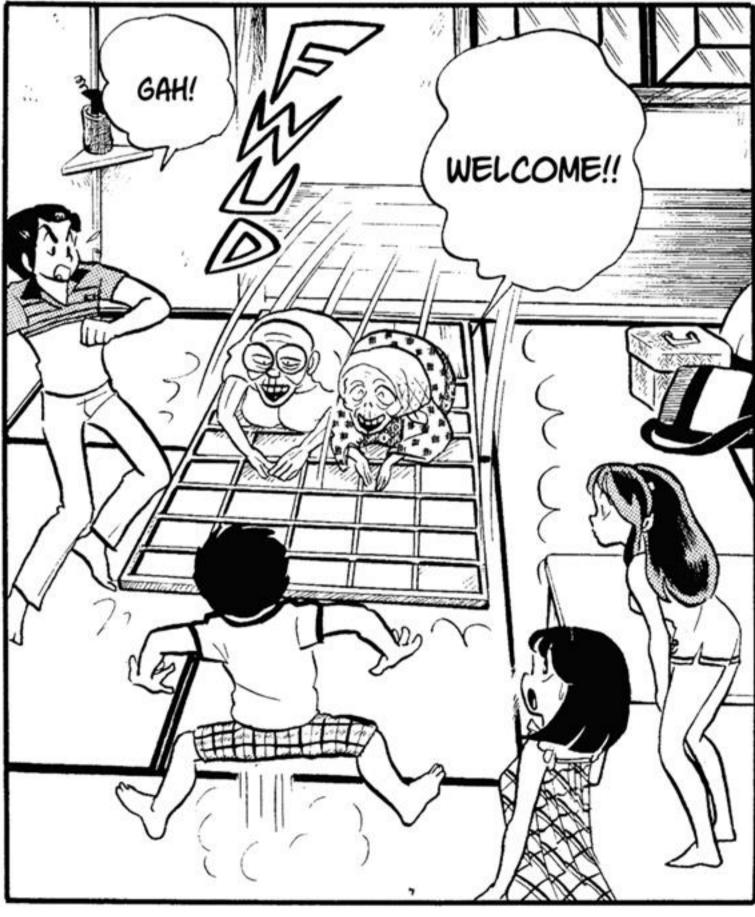






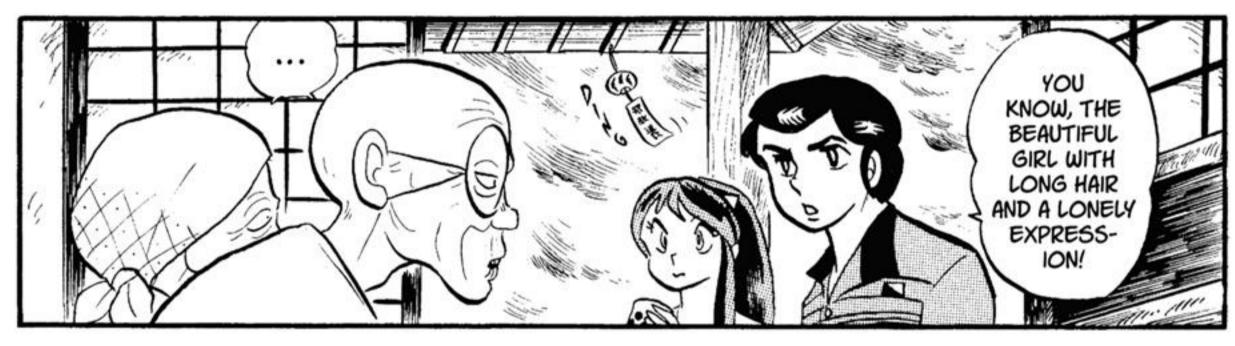




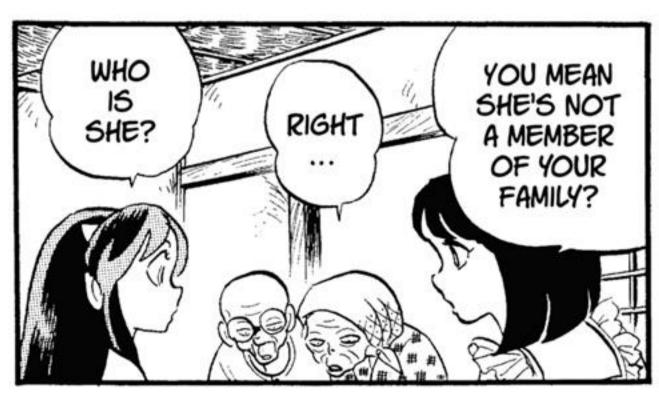






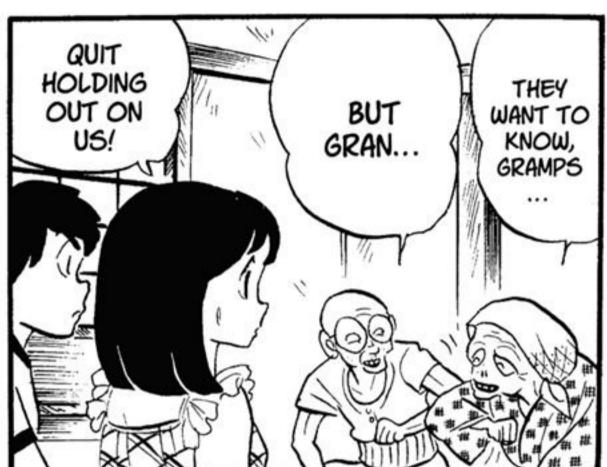


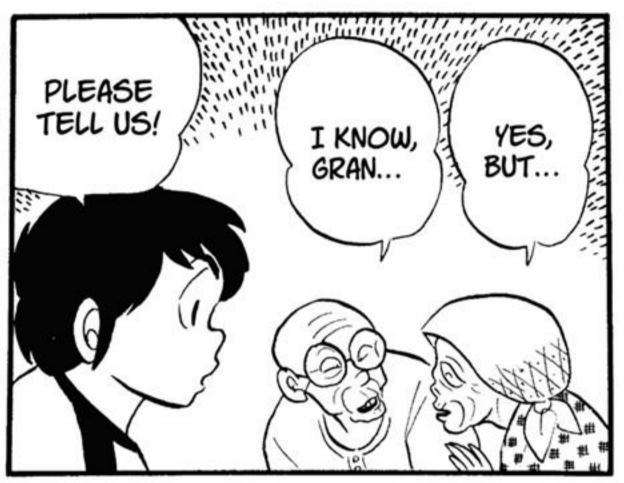








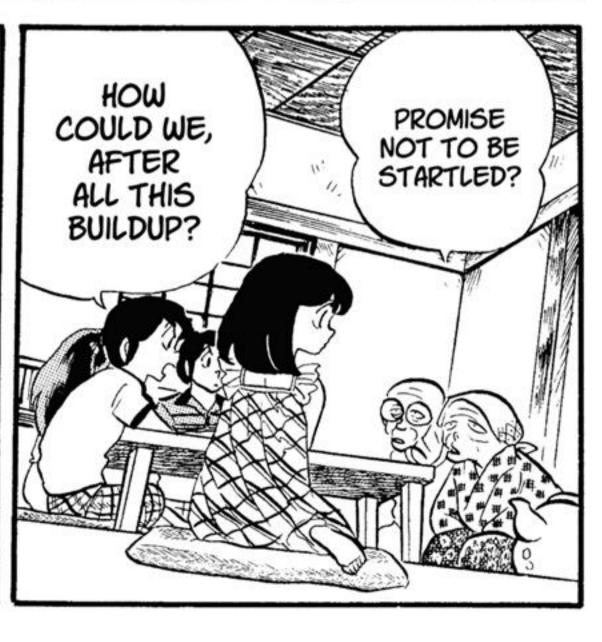




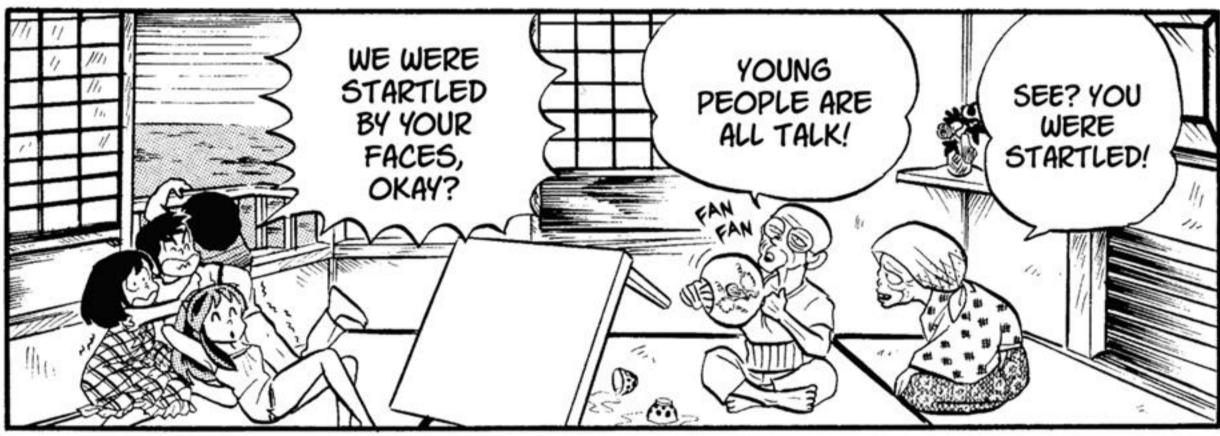


















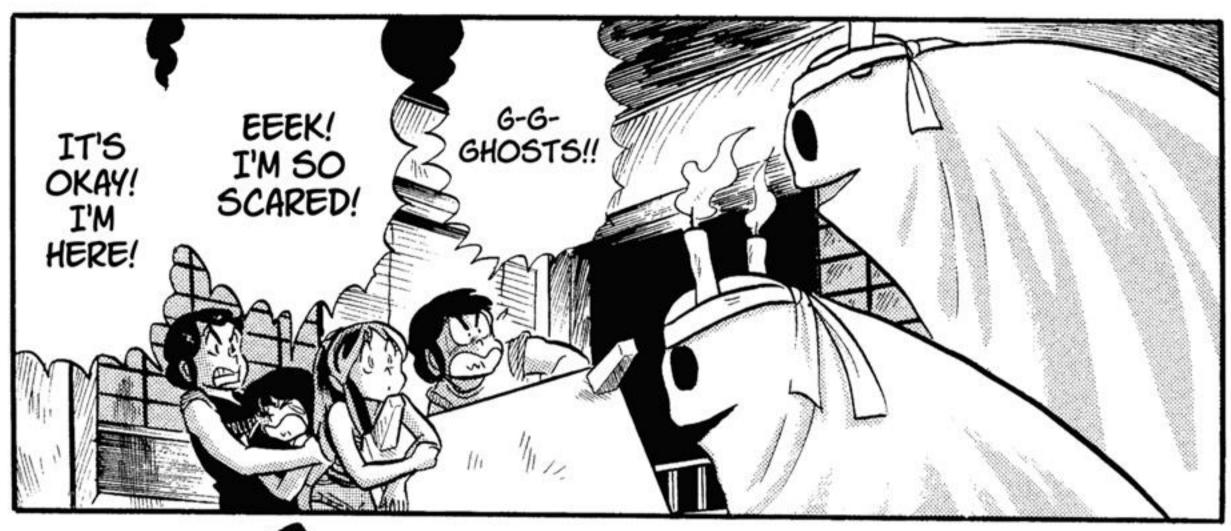


























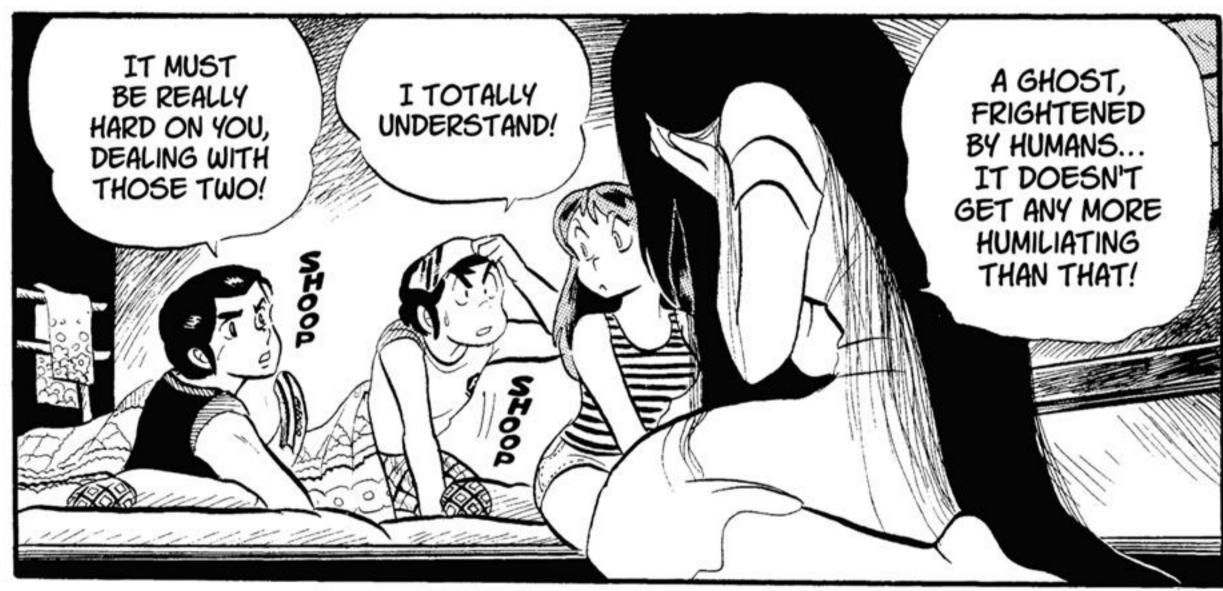




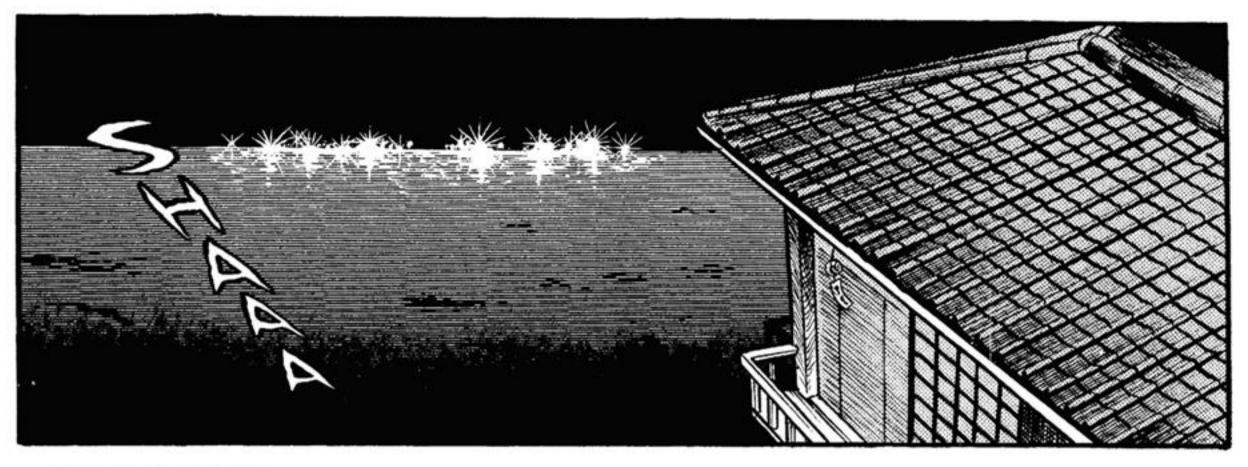








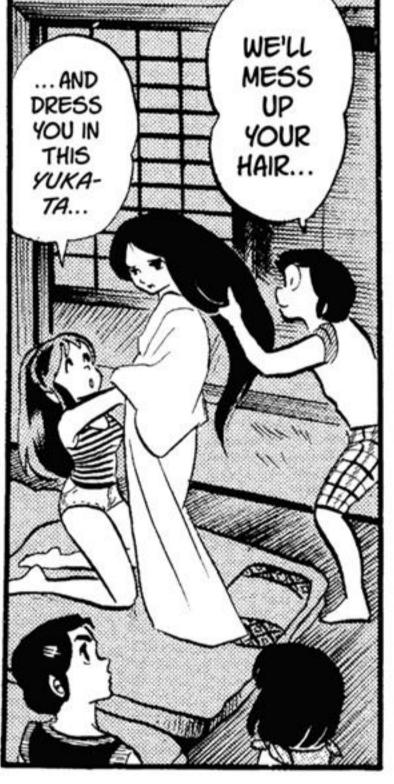




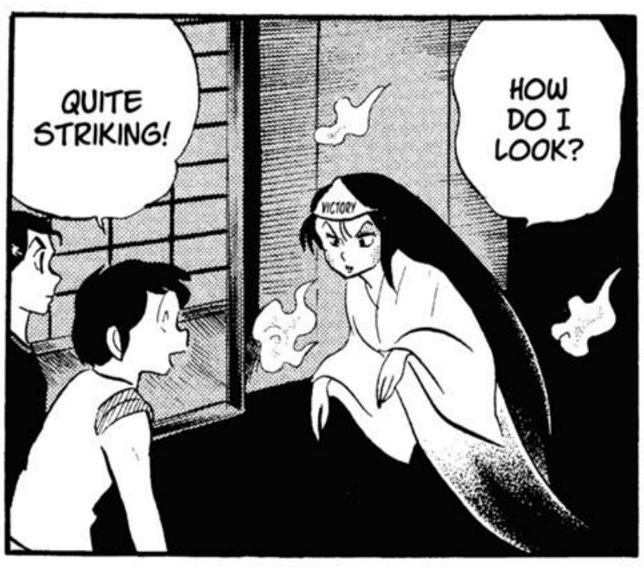














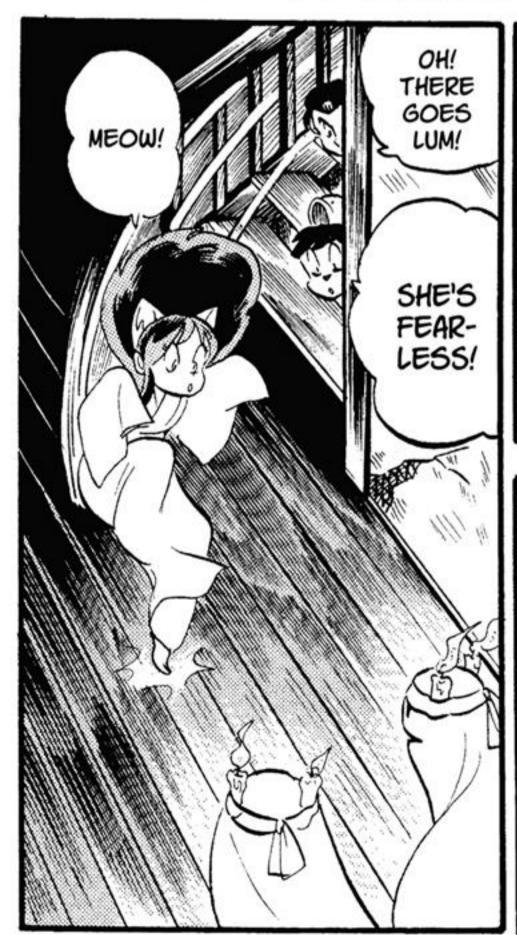






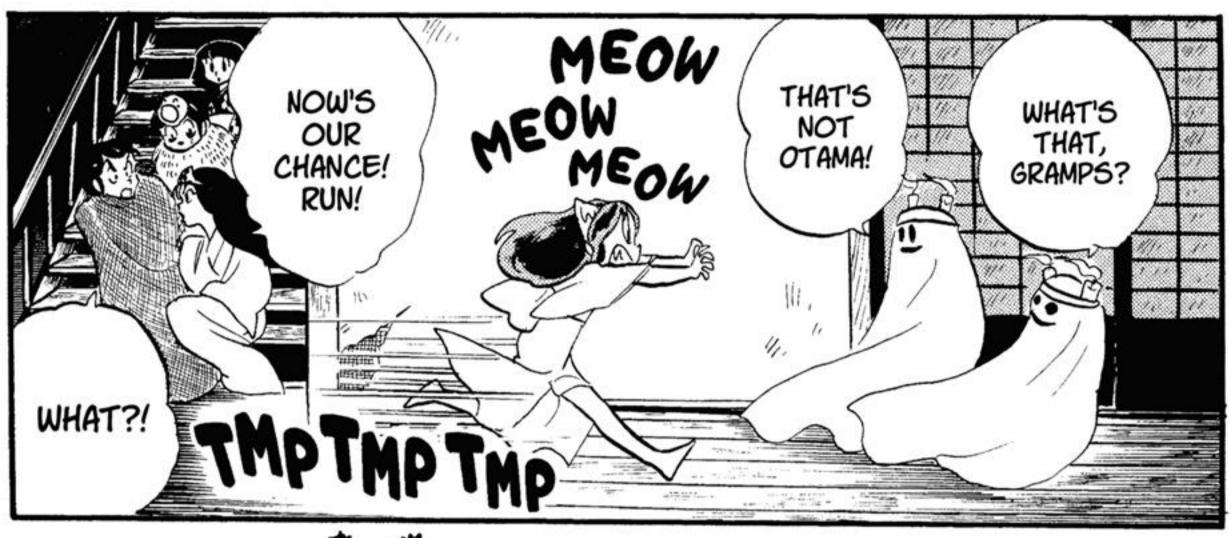


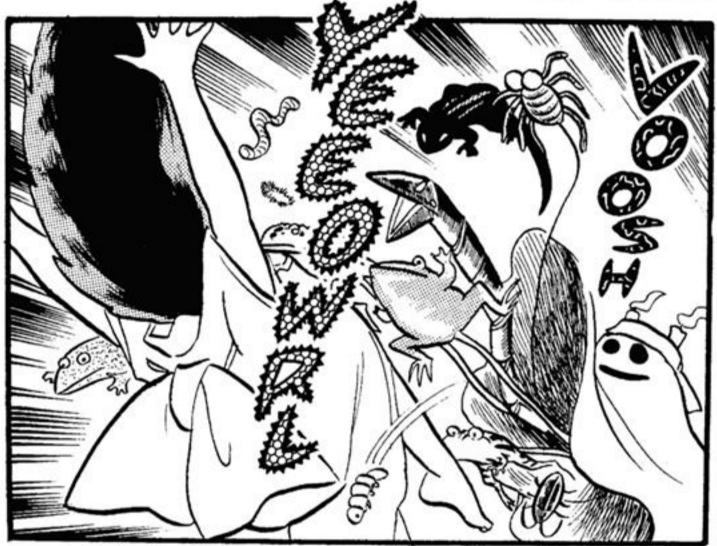










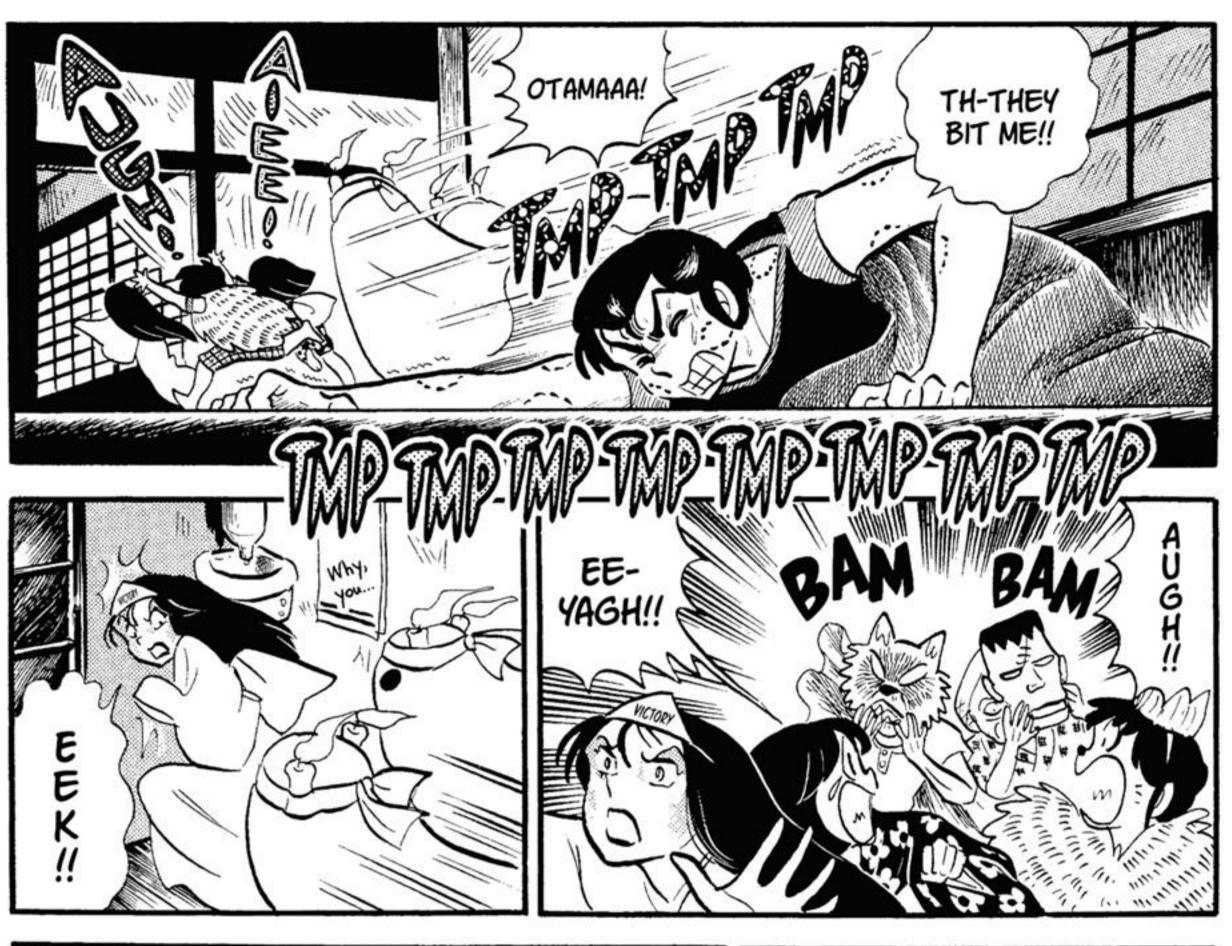














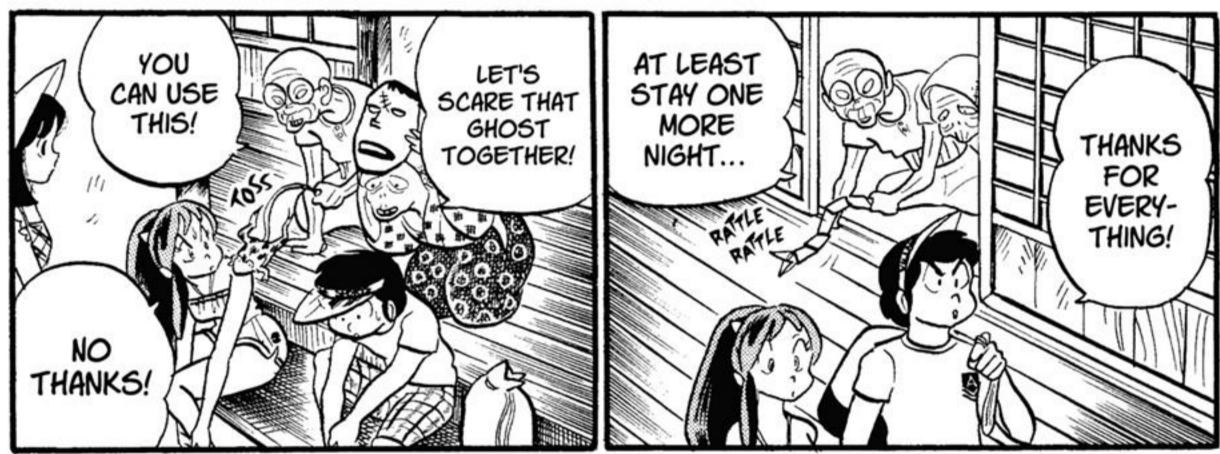




CHAPTER 16: THE SELFISH GHOST







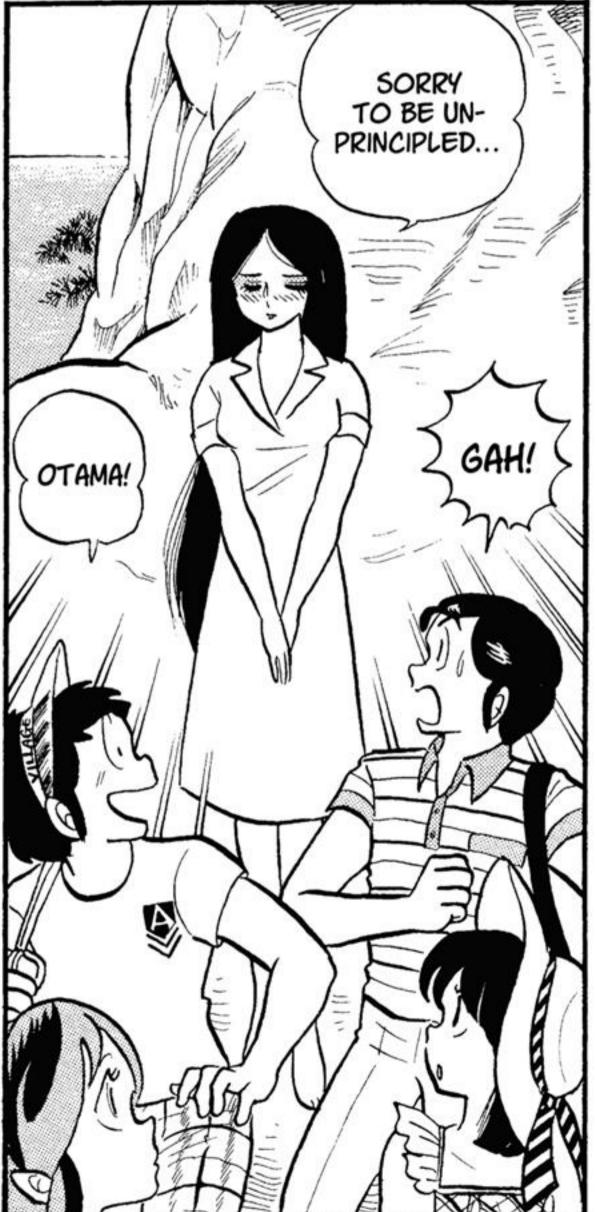








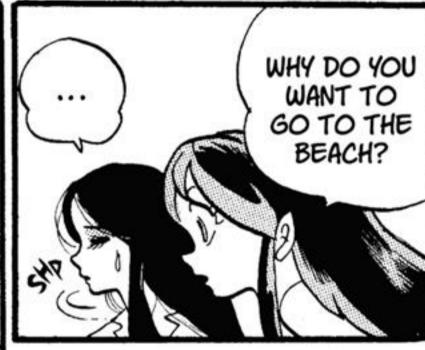


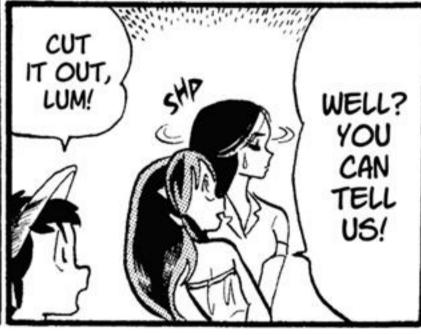










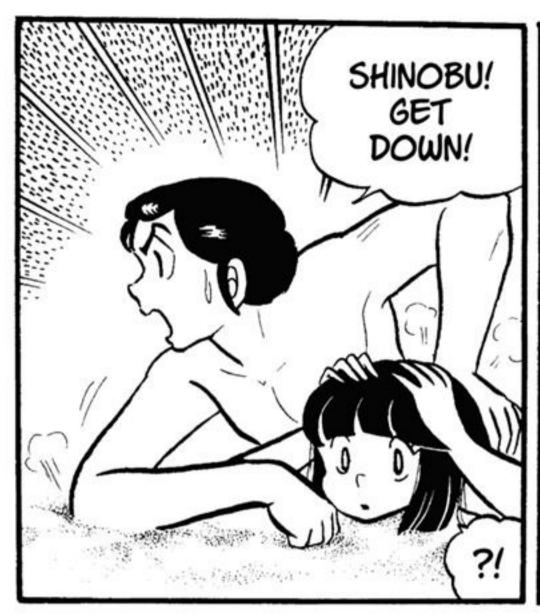




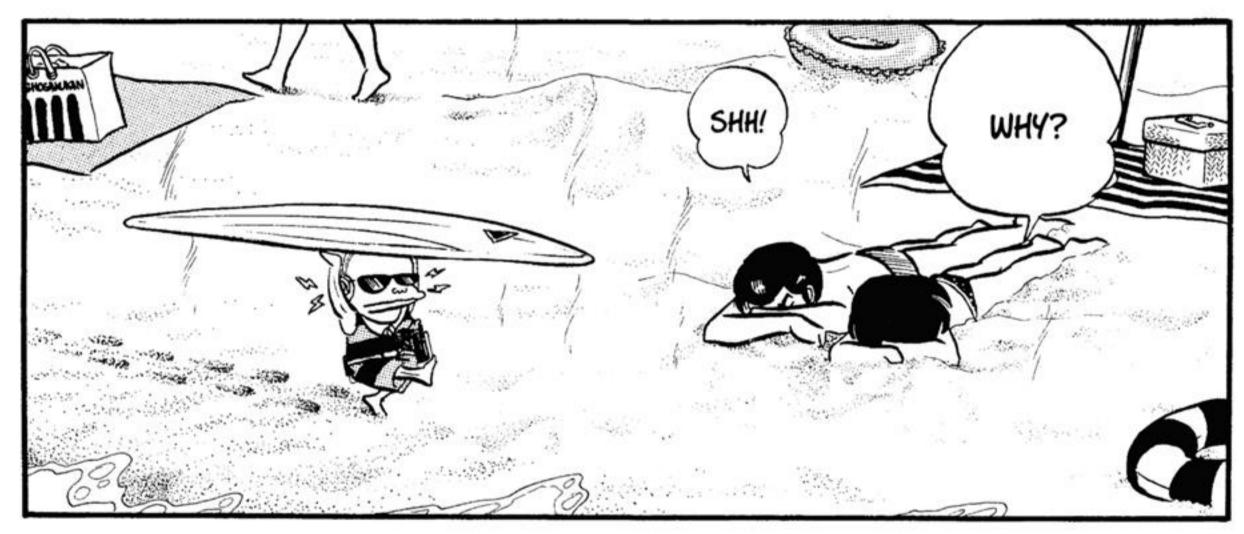






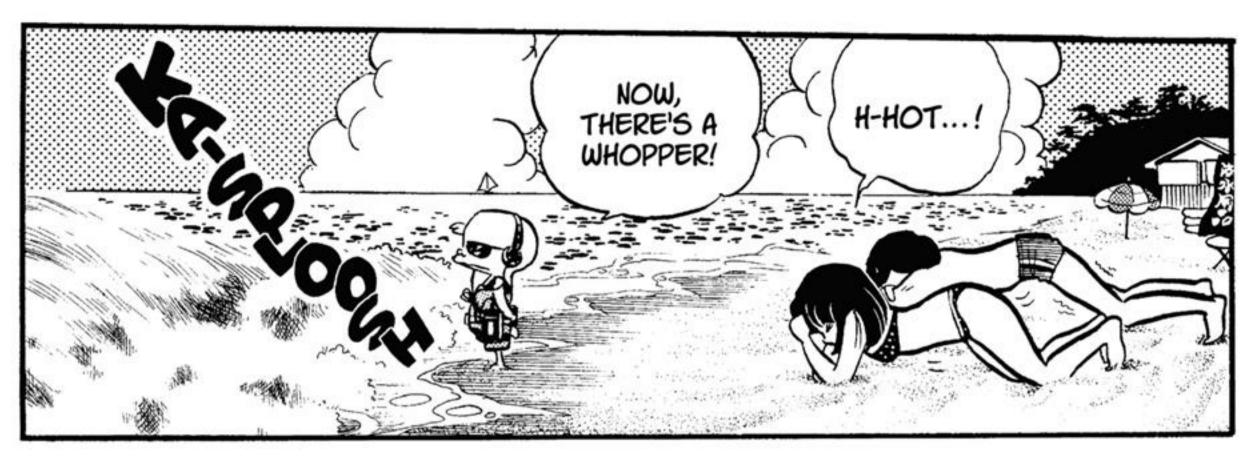






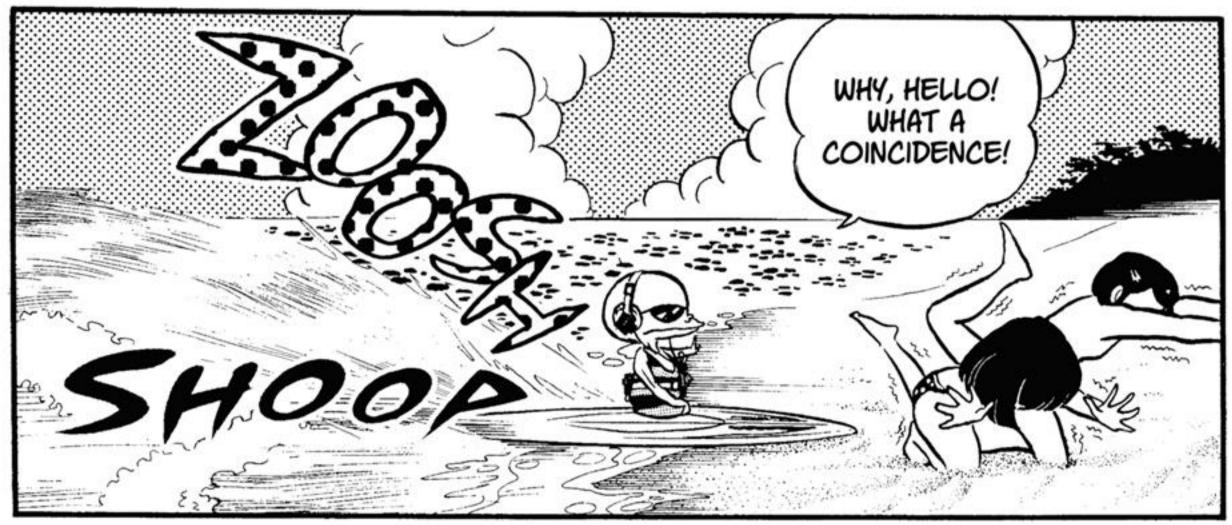




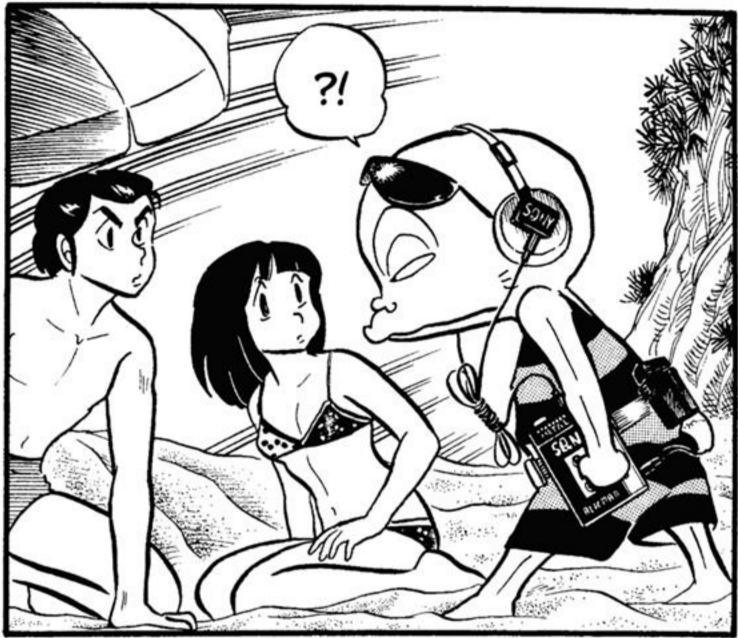


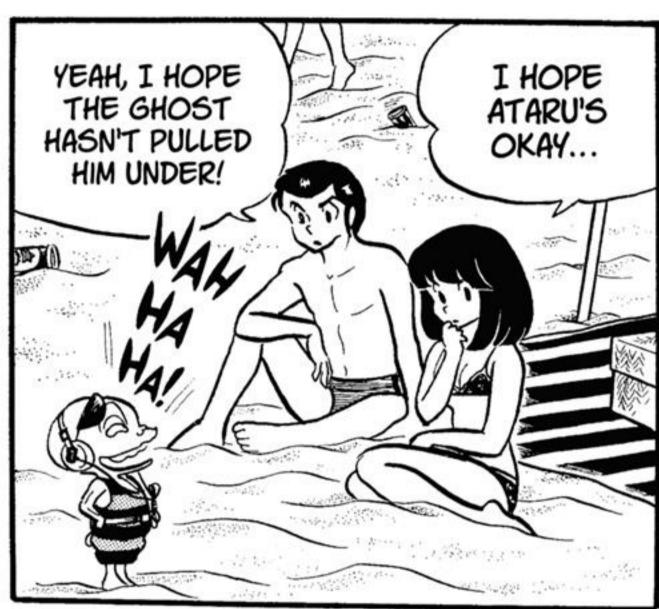




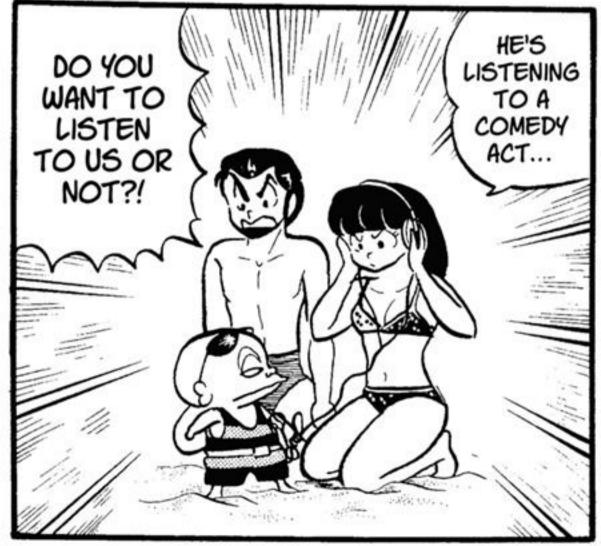




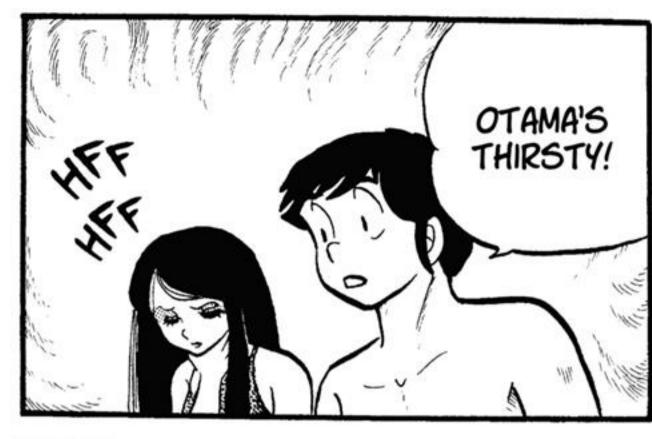


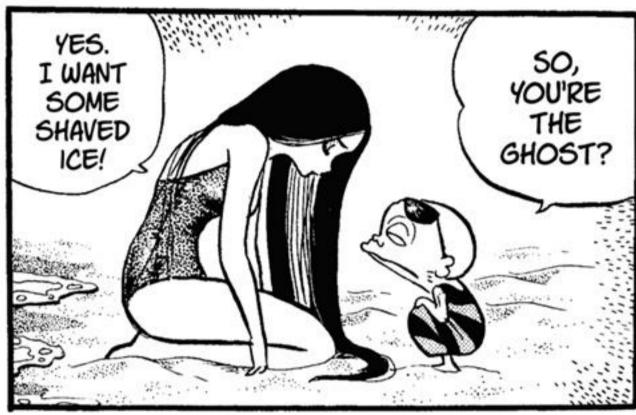


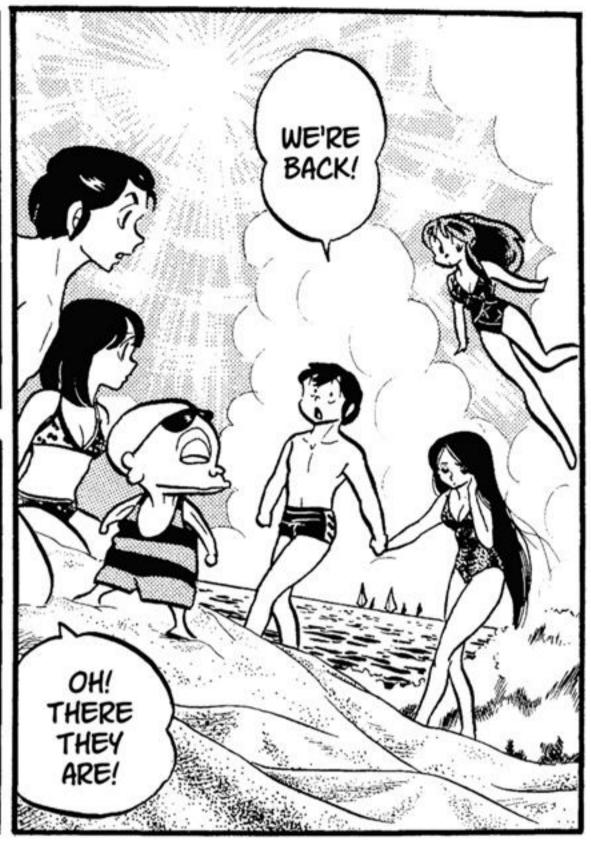


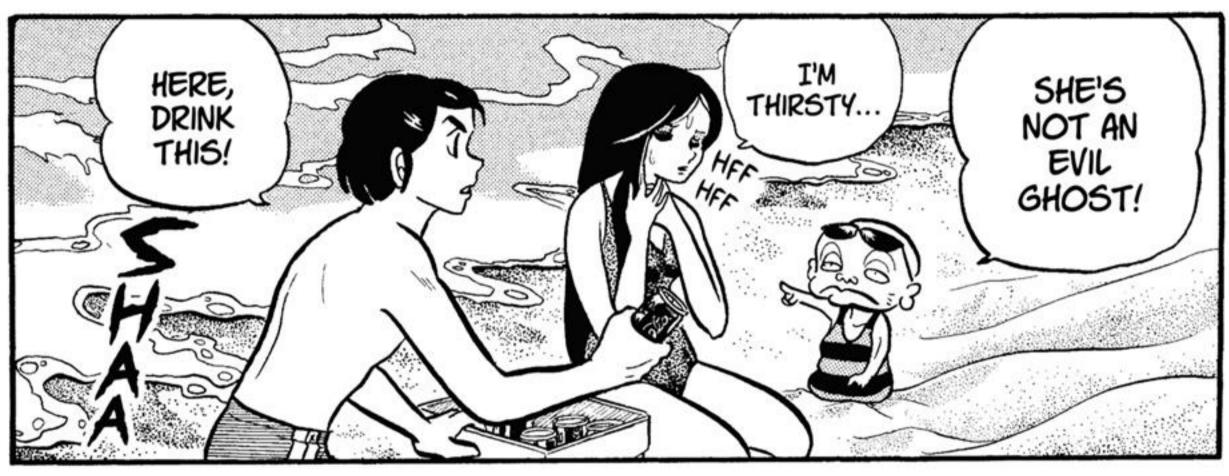


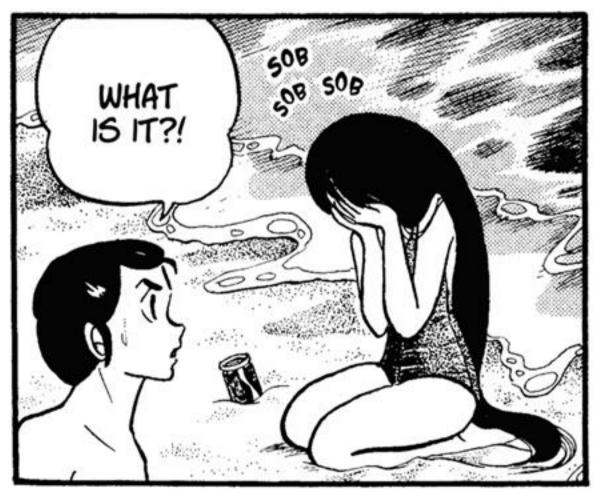






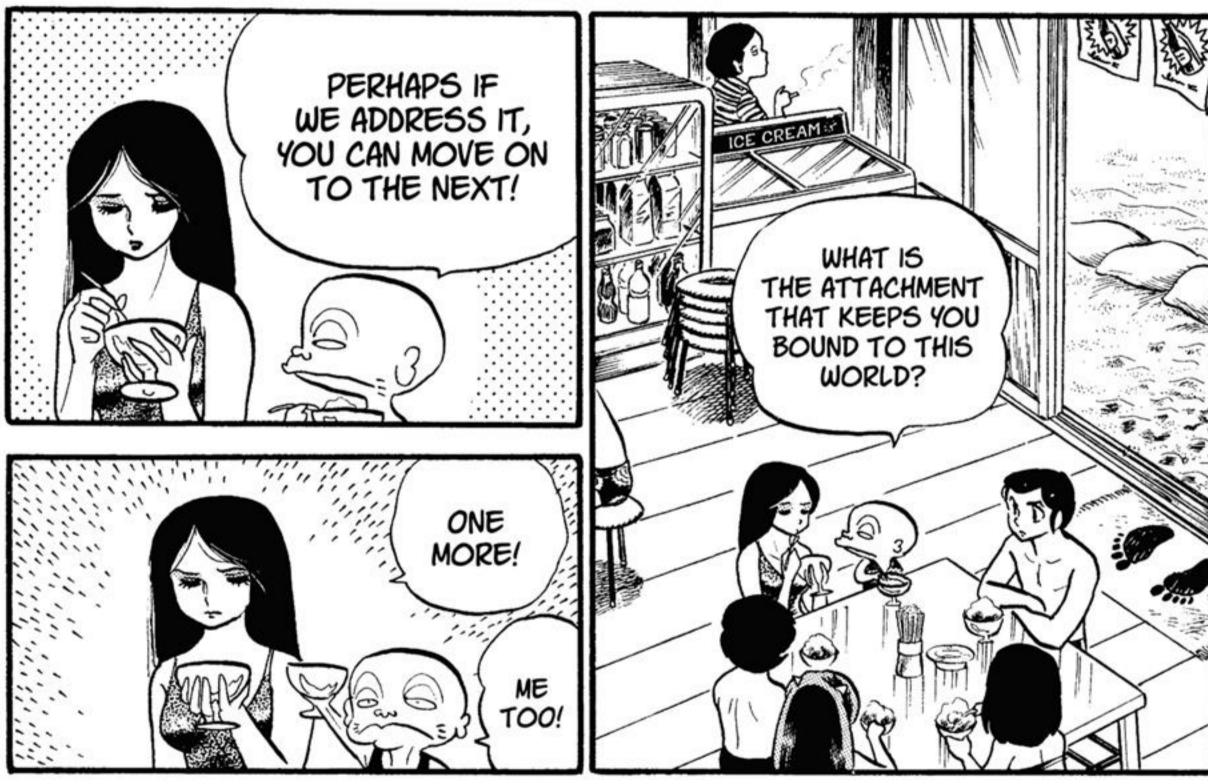


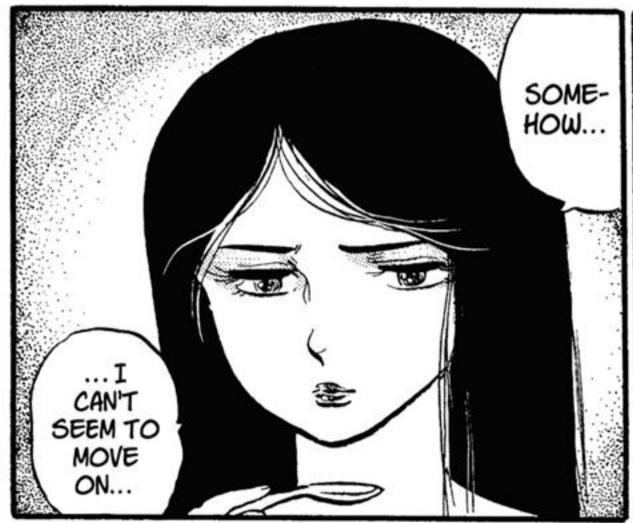




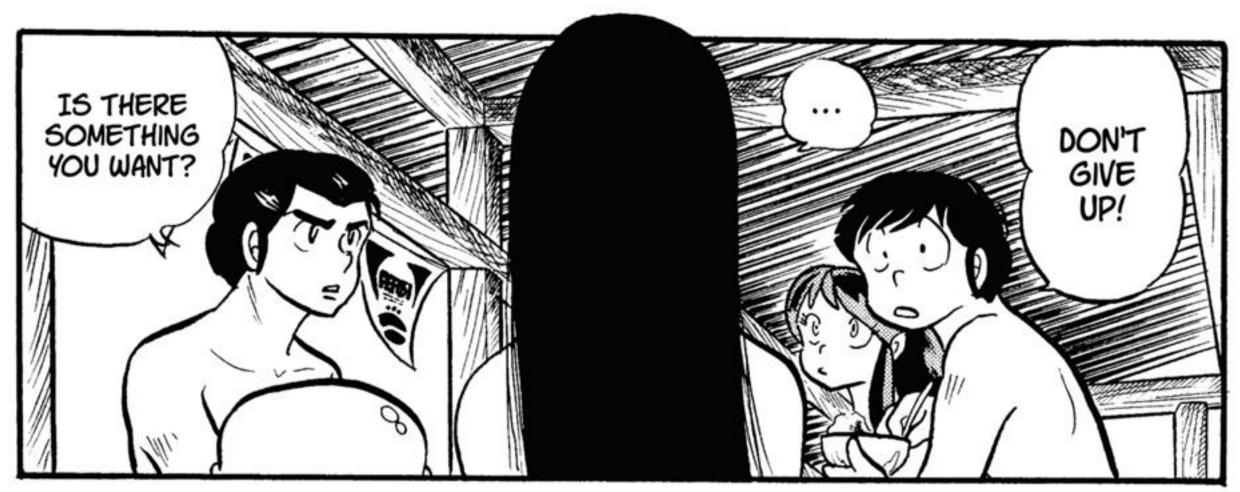






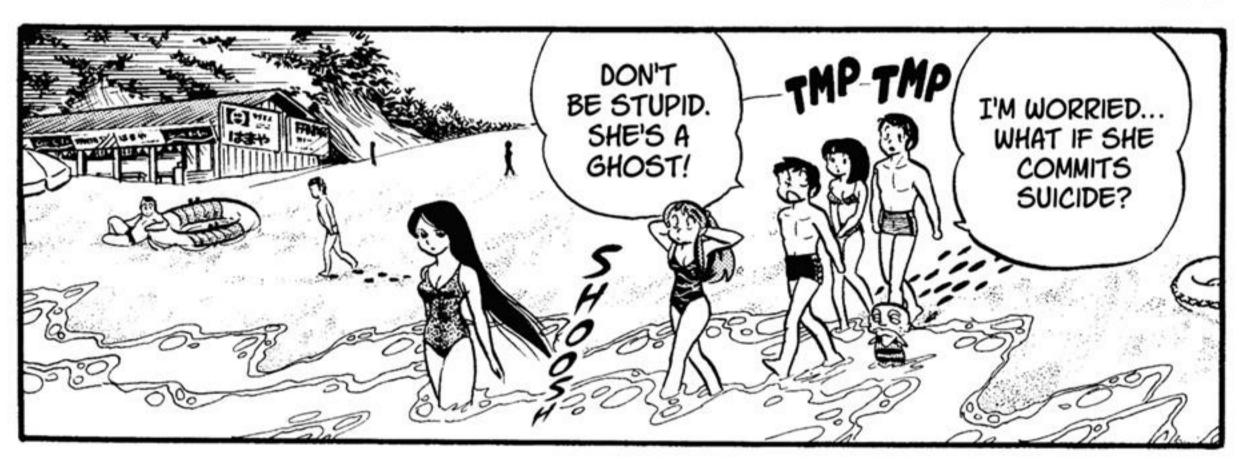


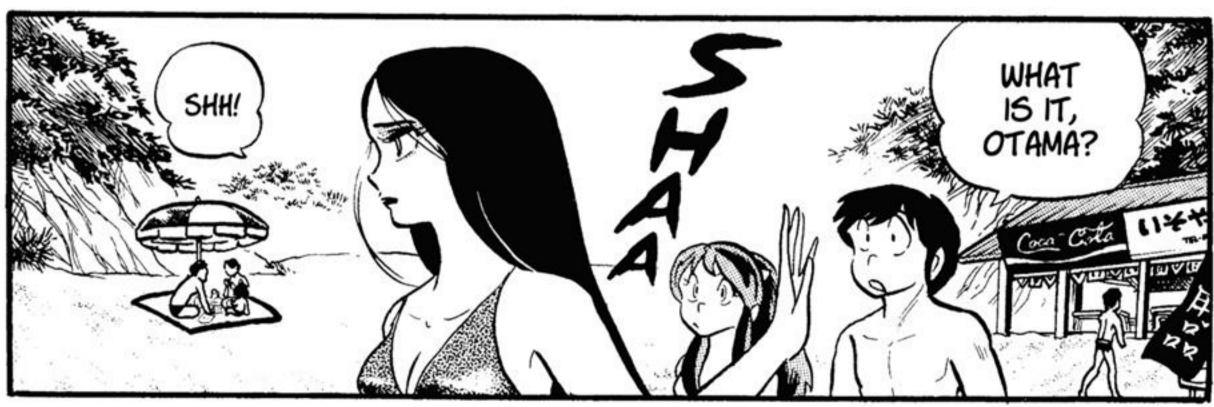


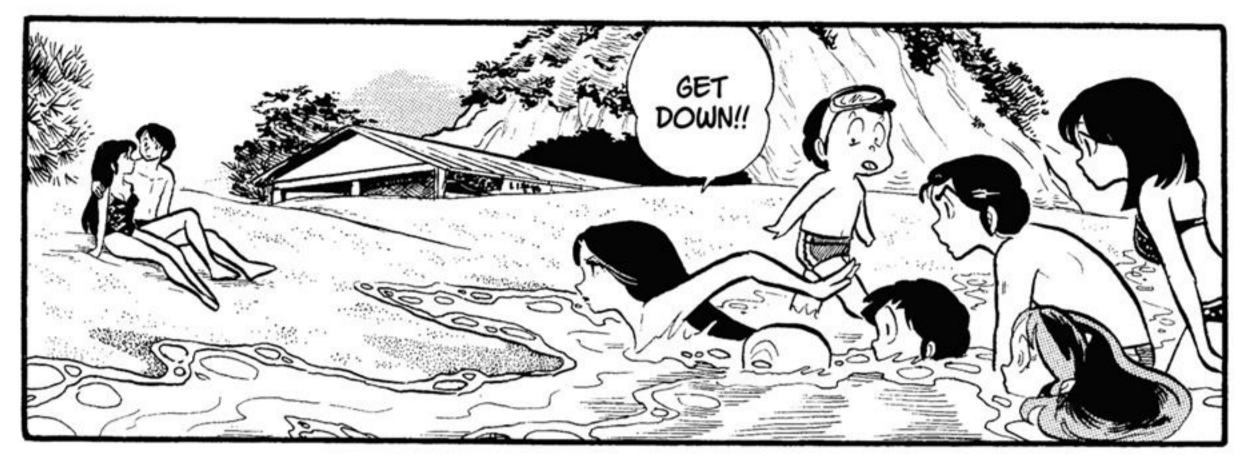








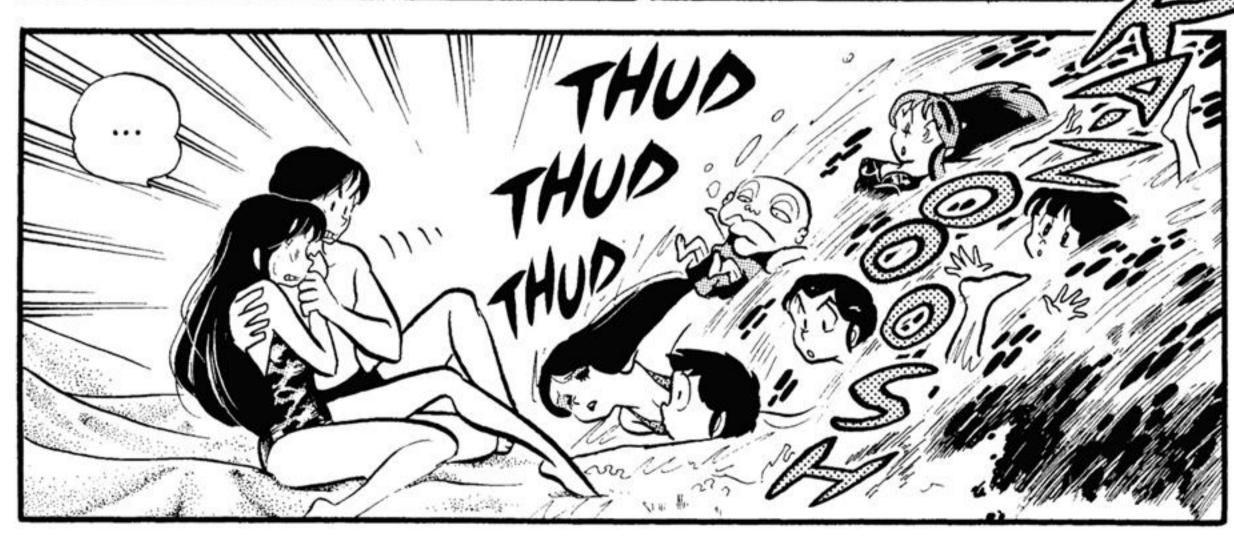




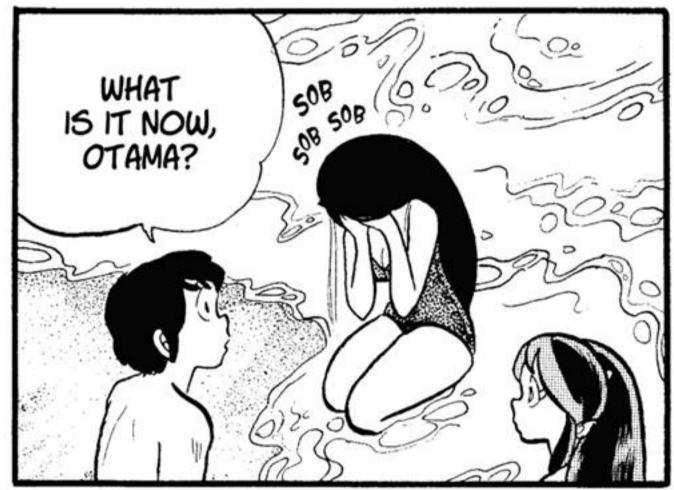






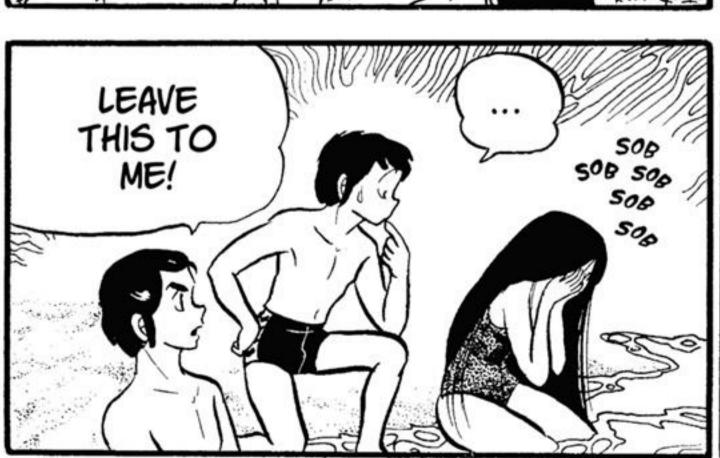










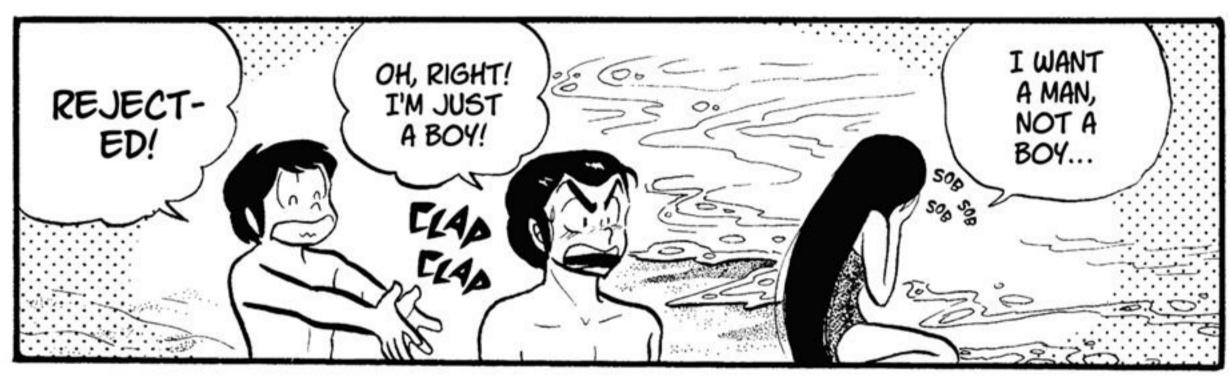




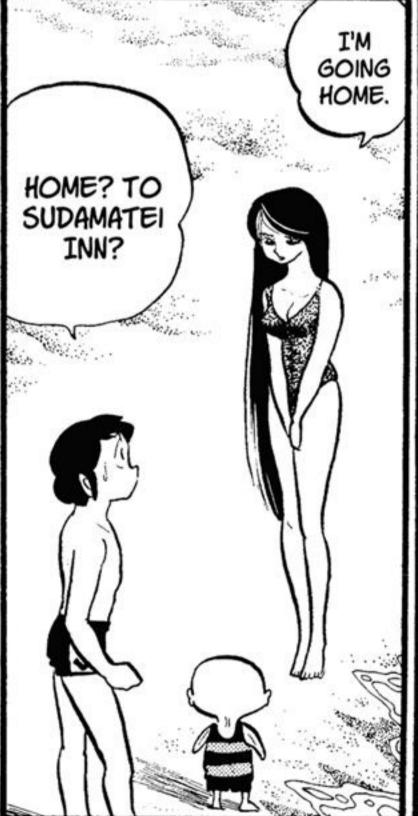




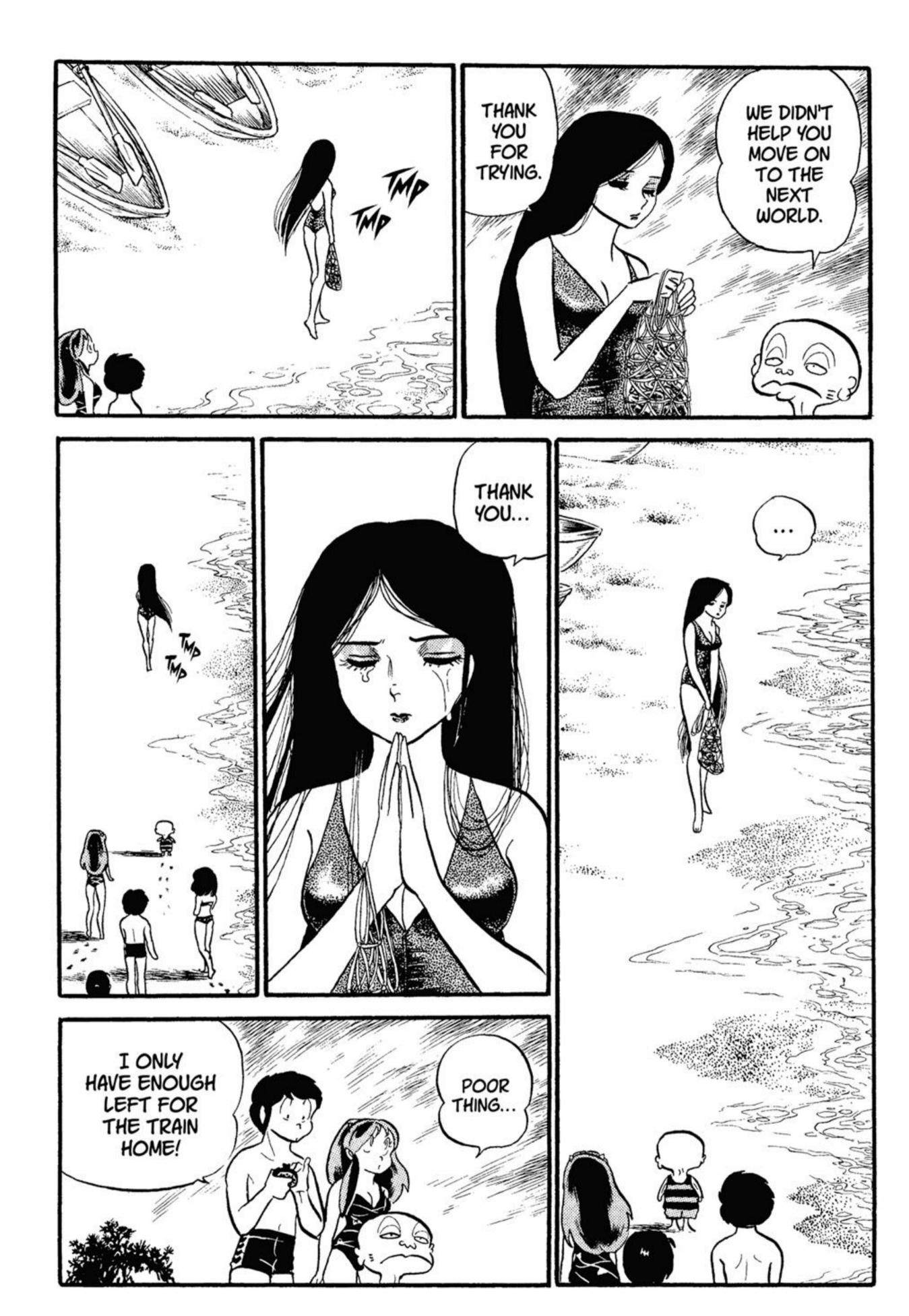


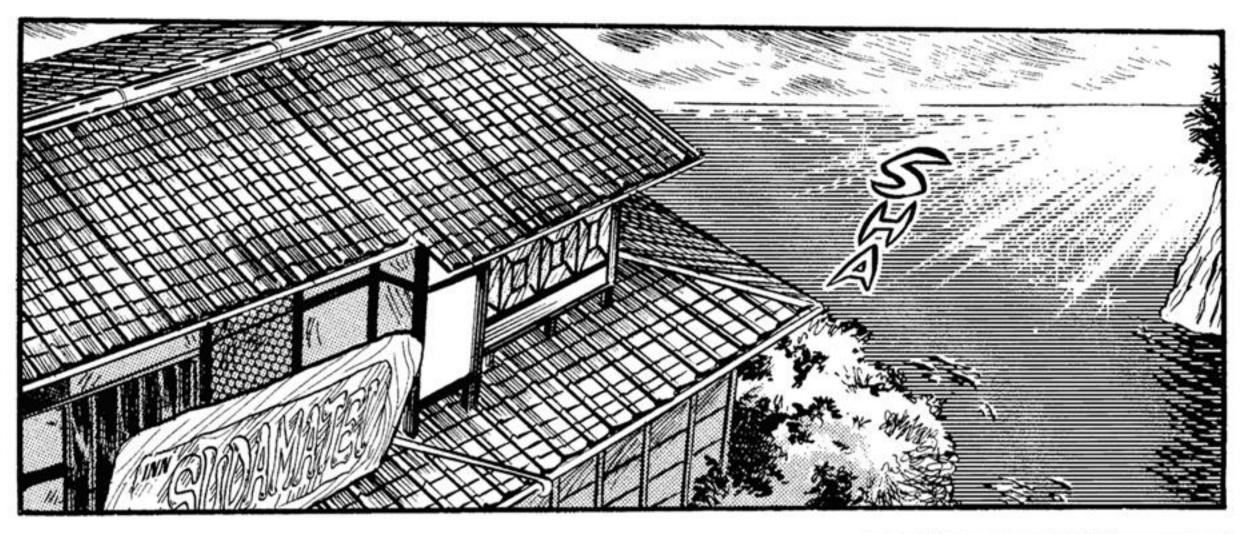


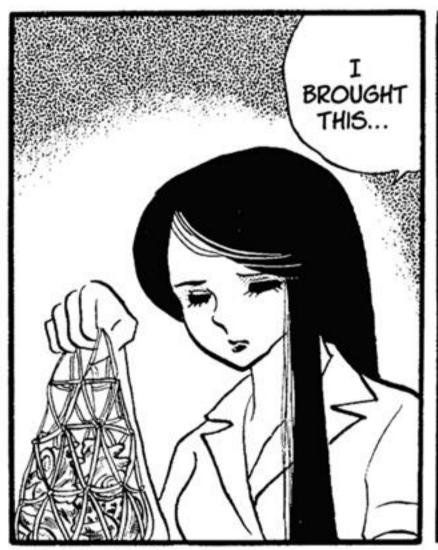


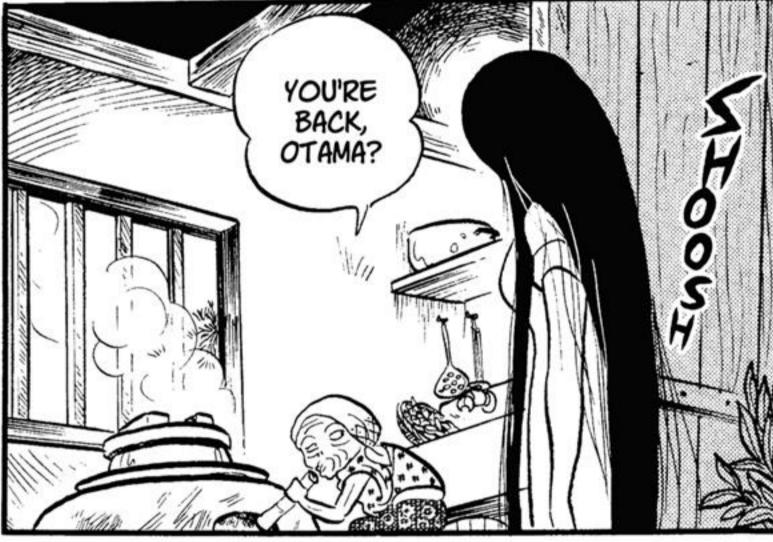


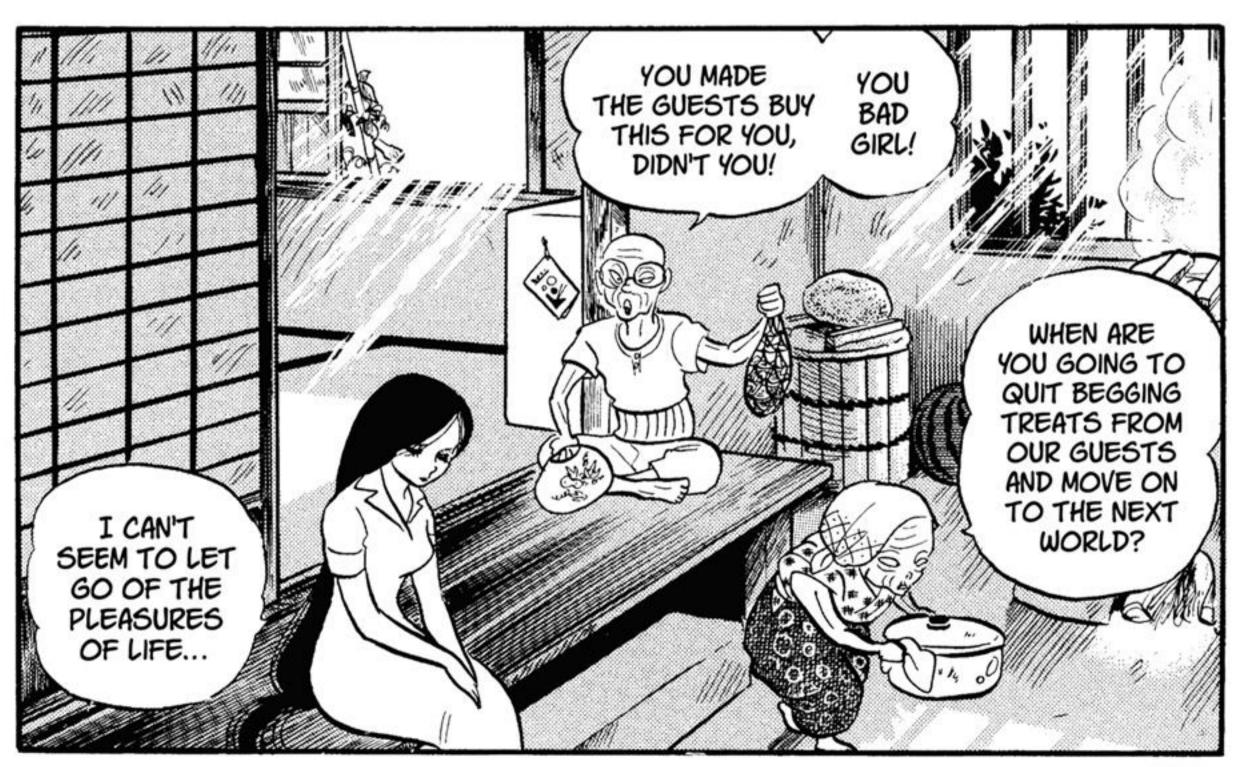






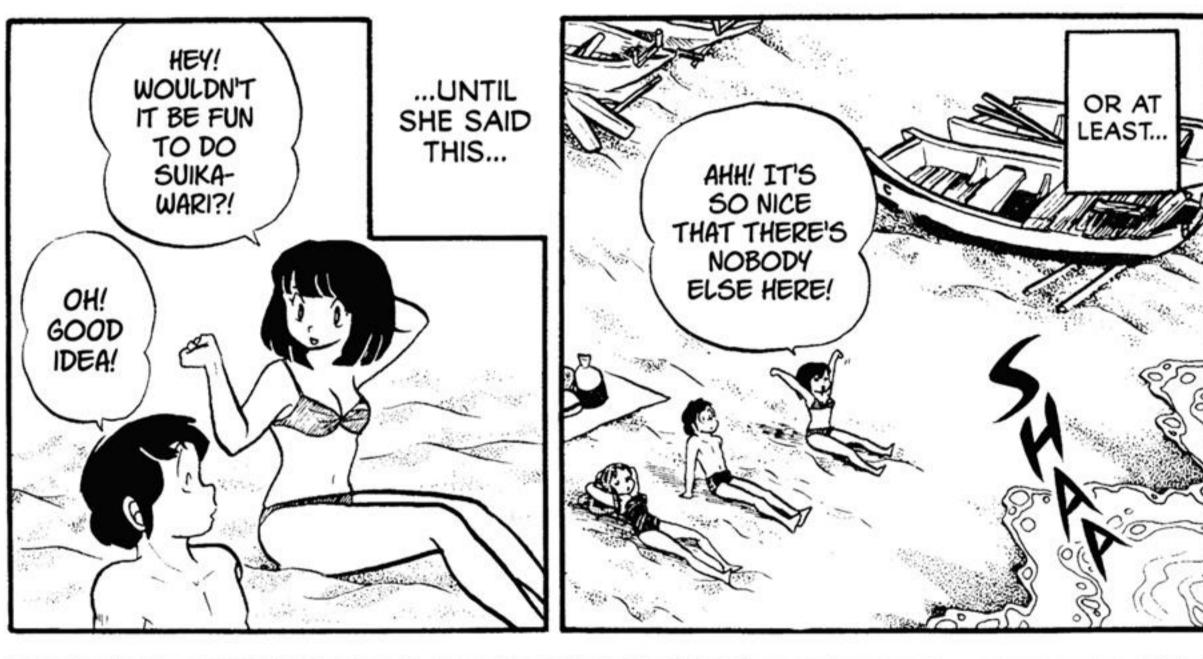


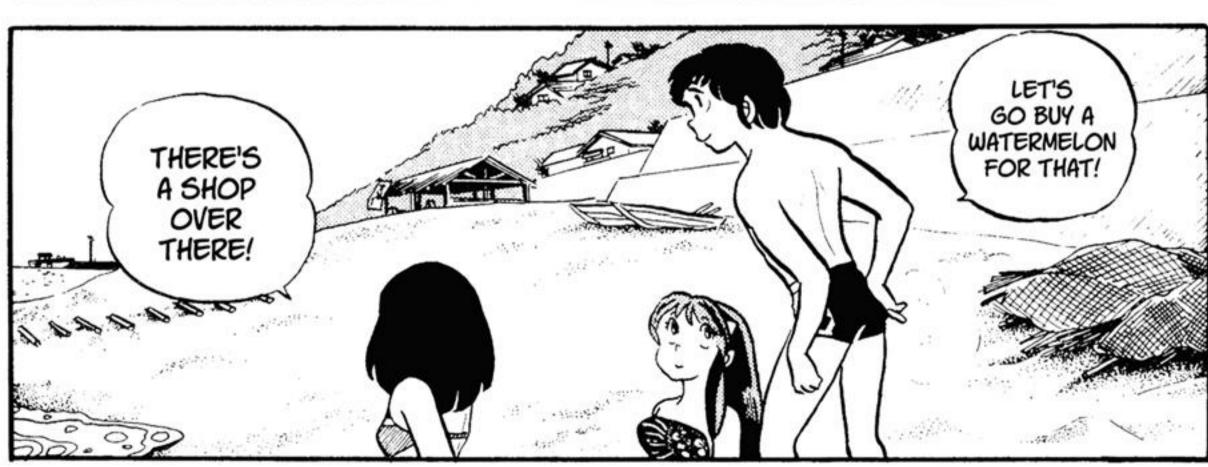










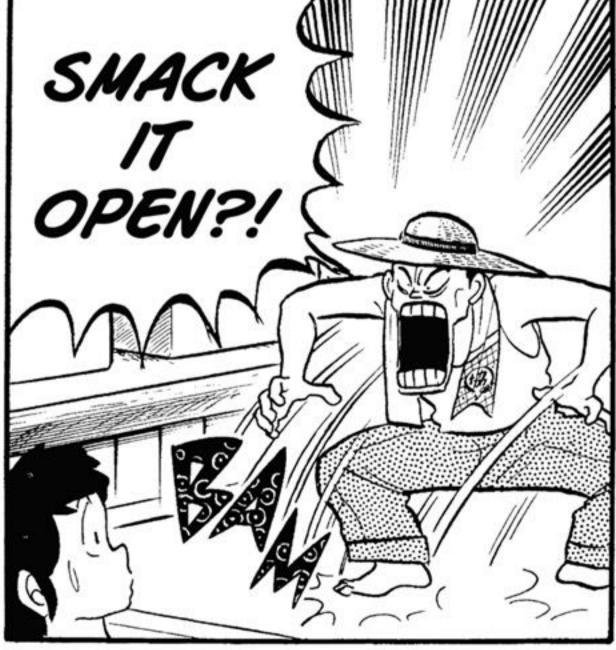








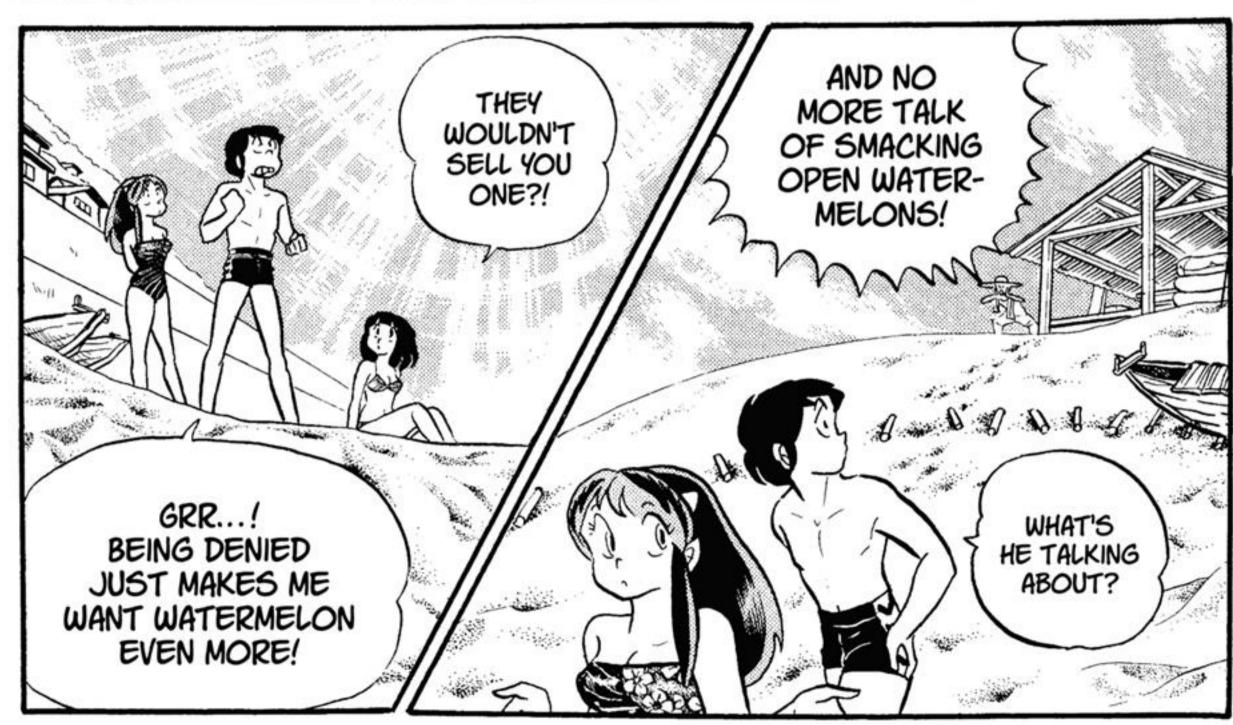










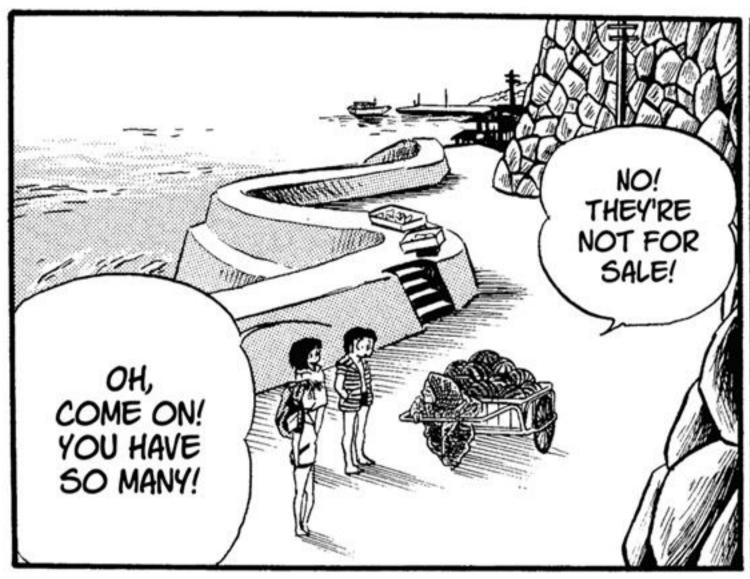








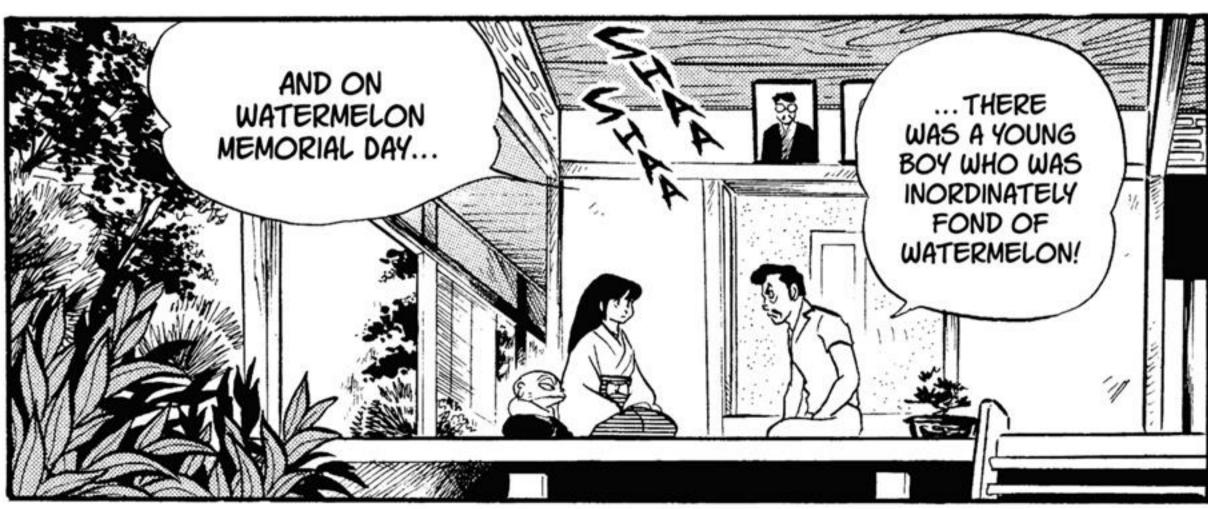


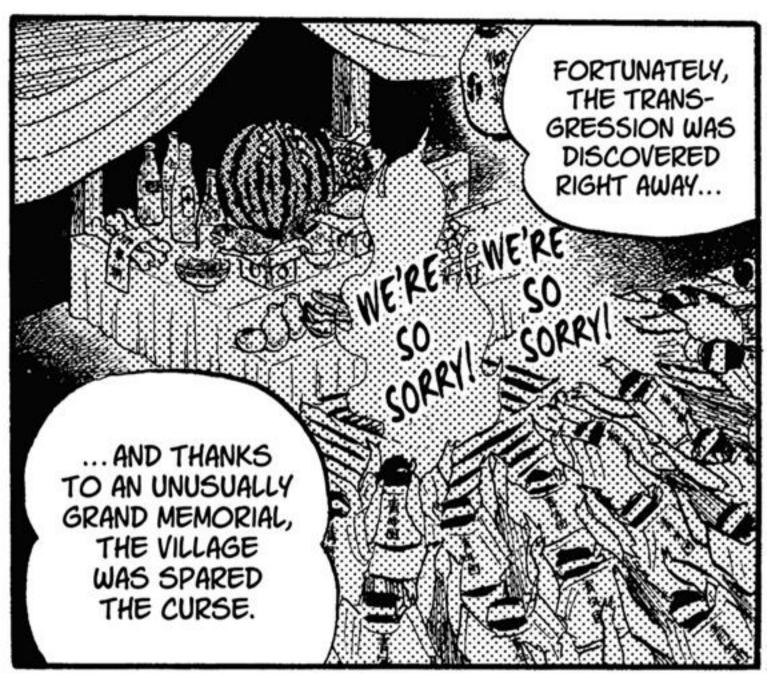












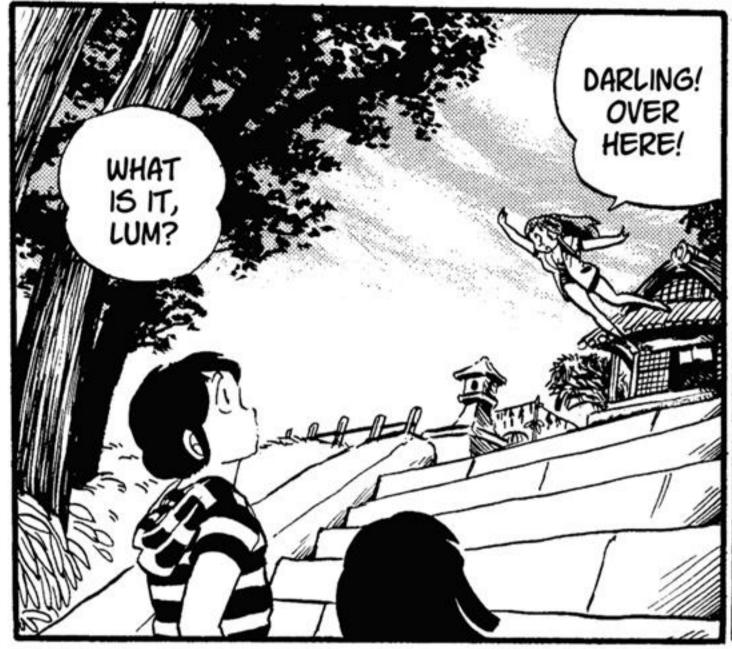










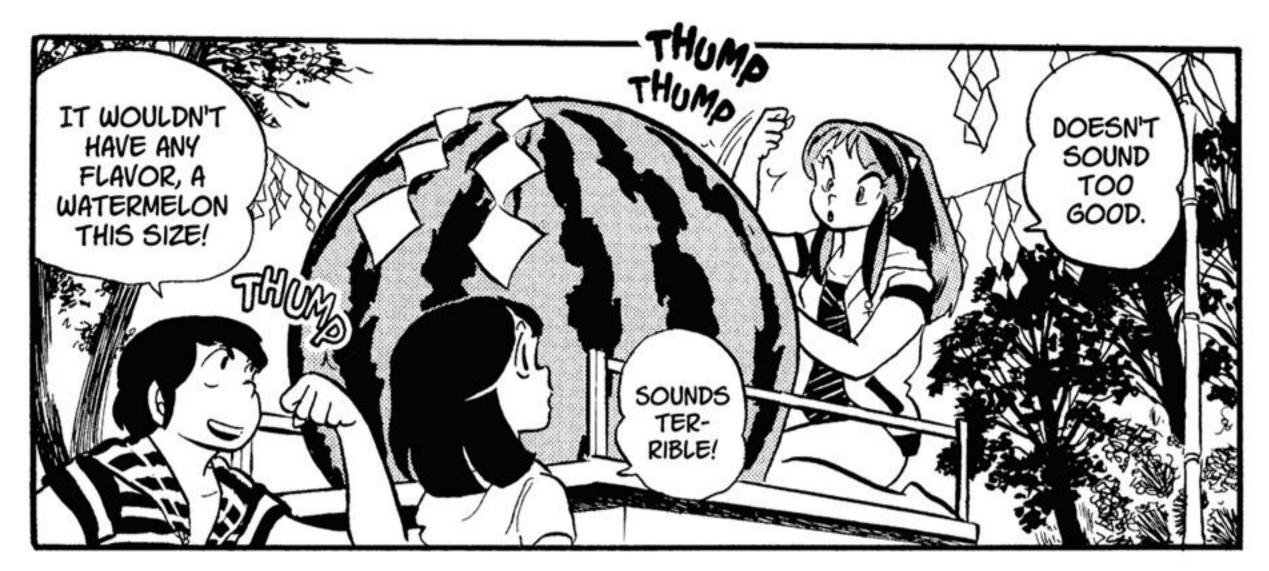






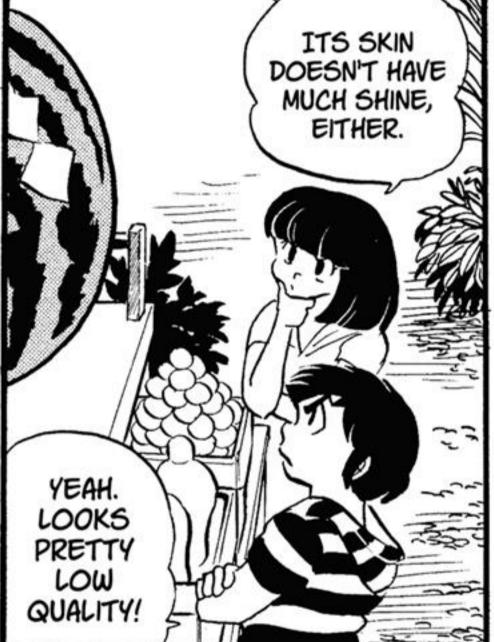


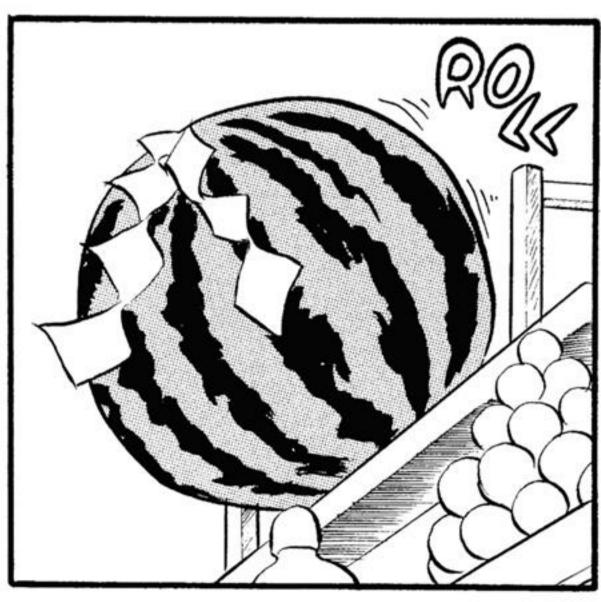


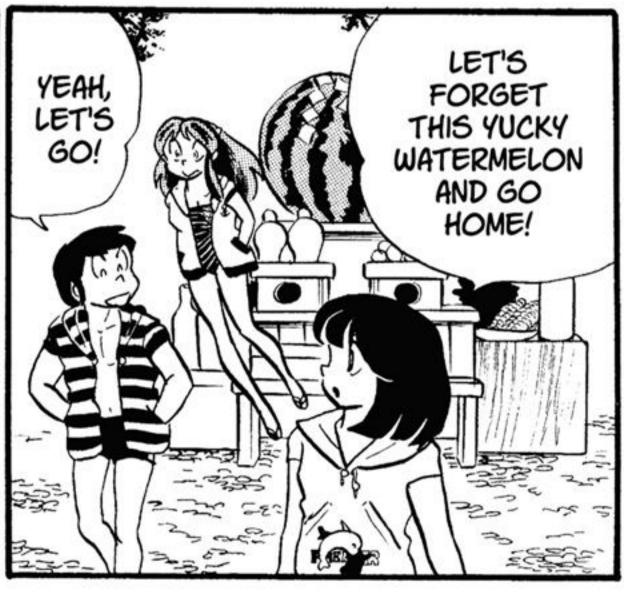


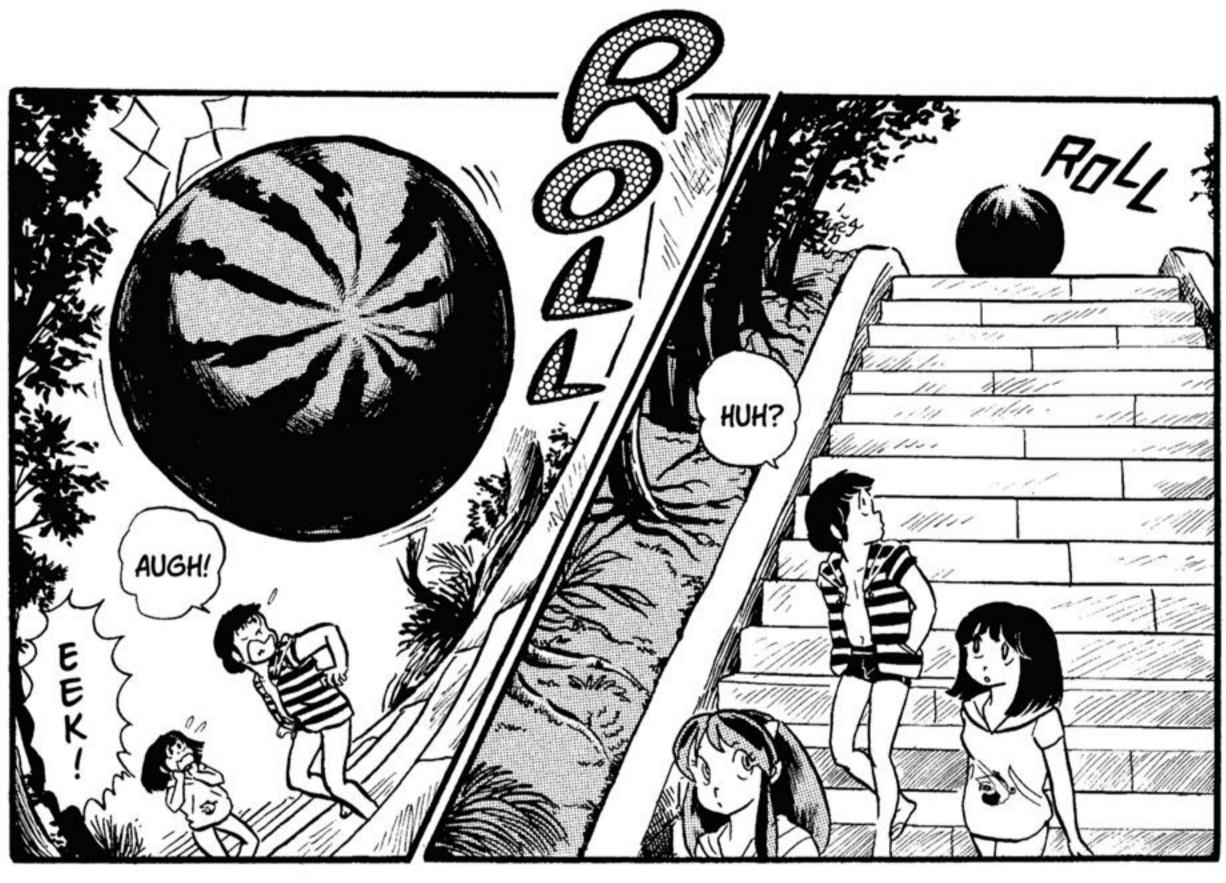




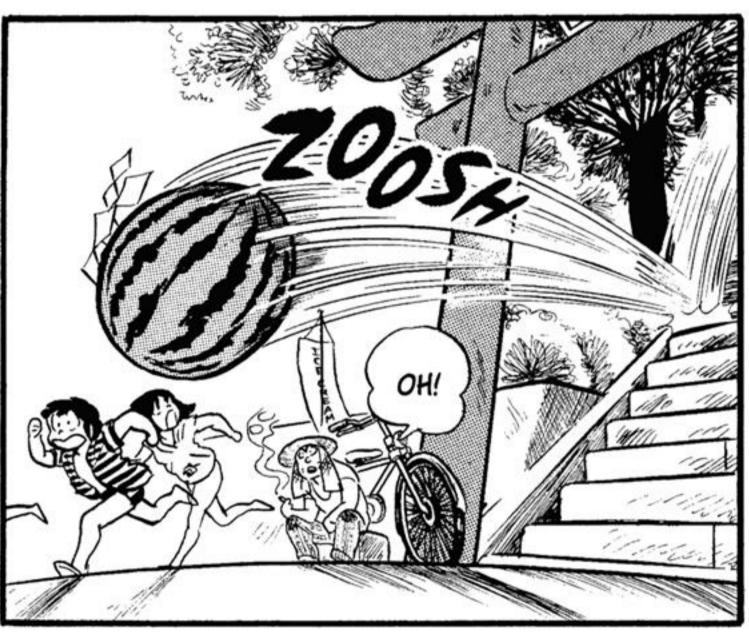




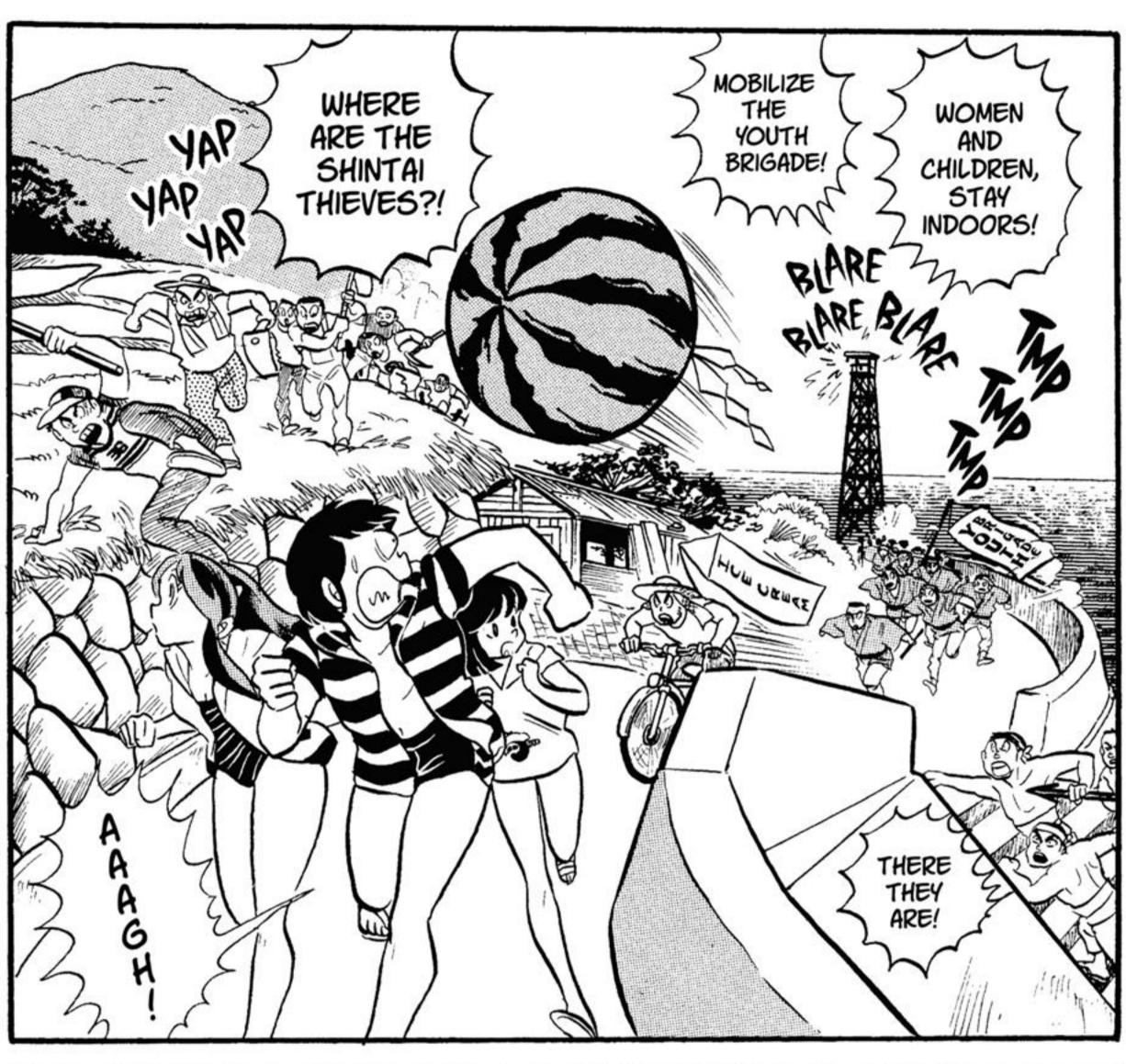










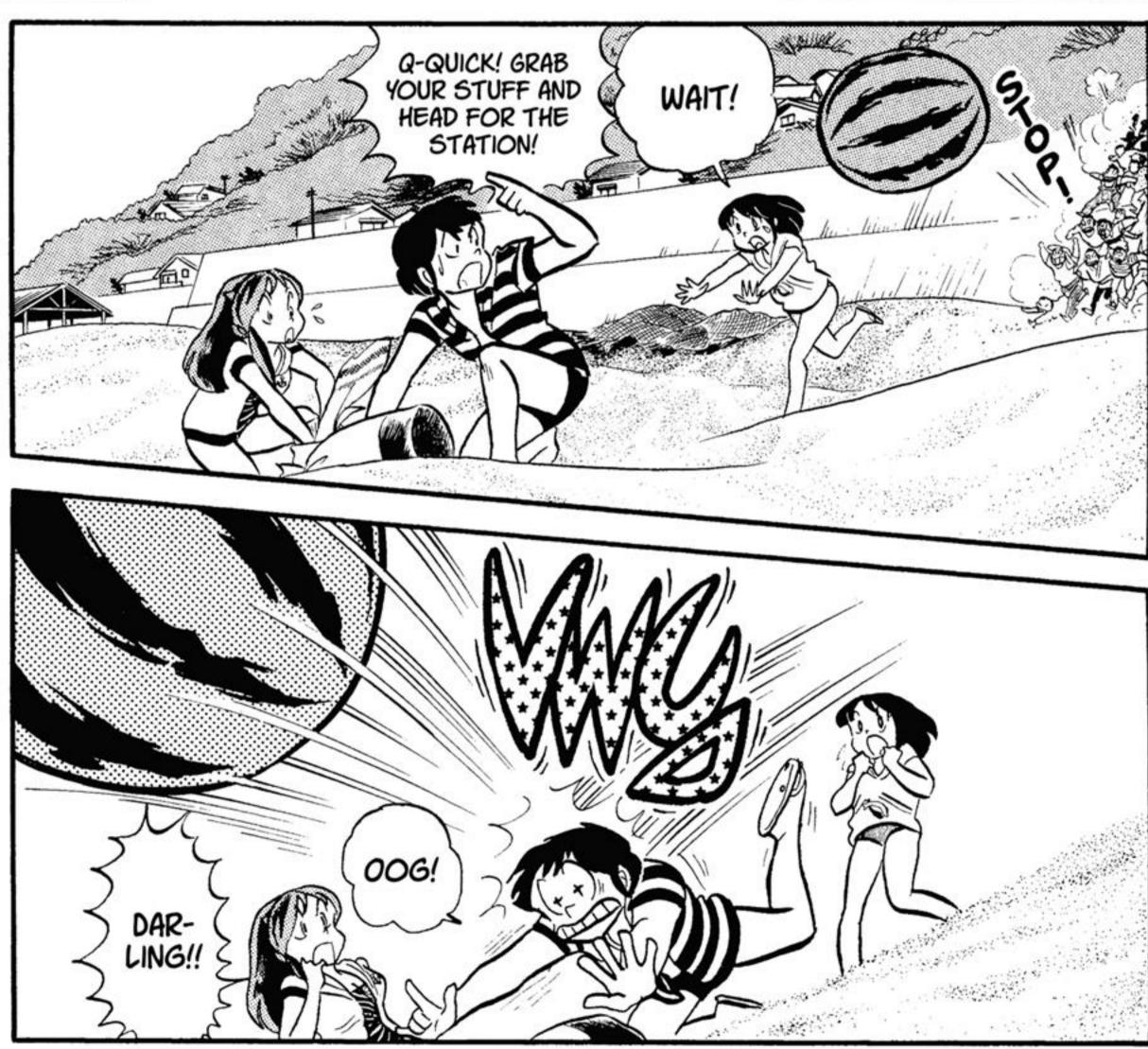




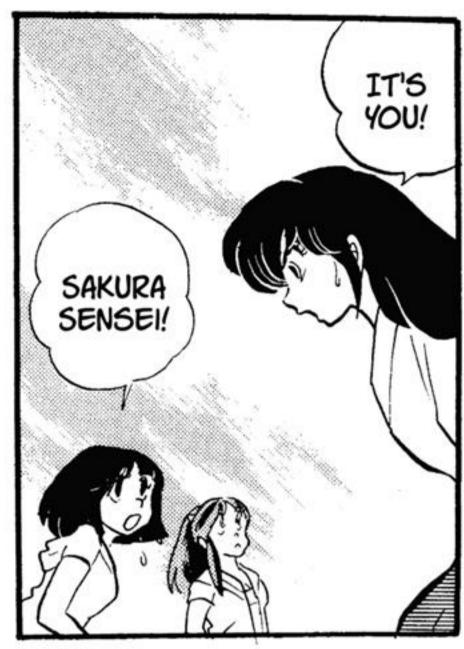


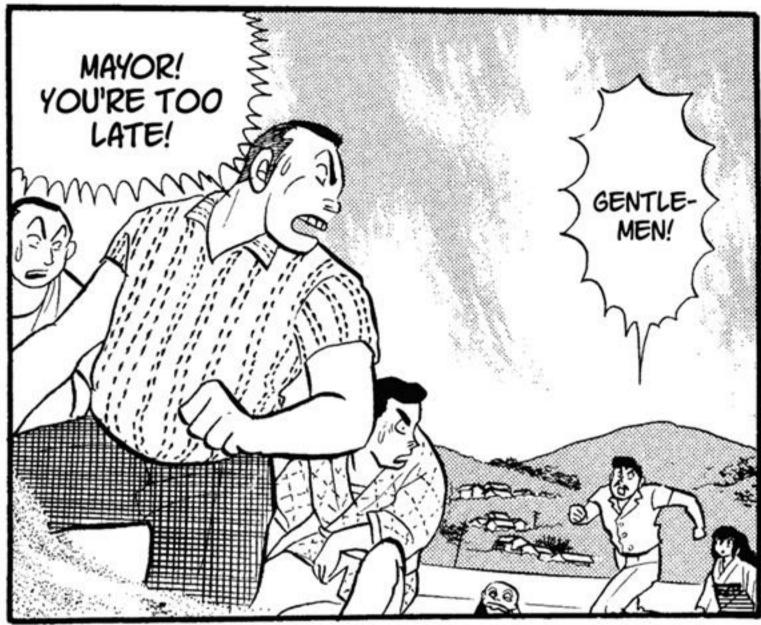








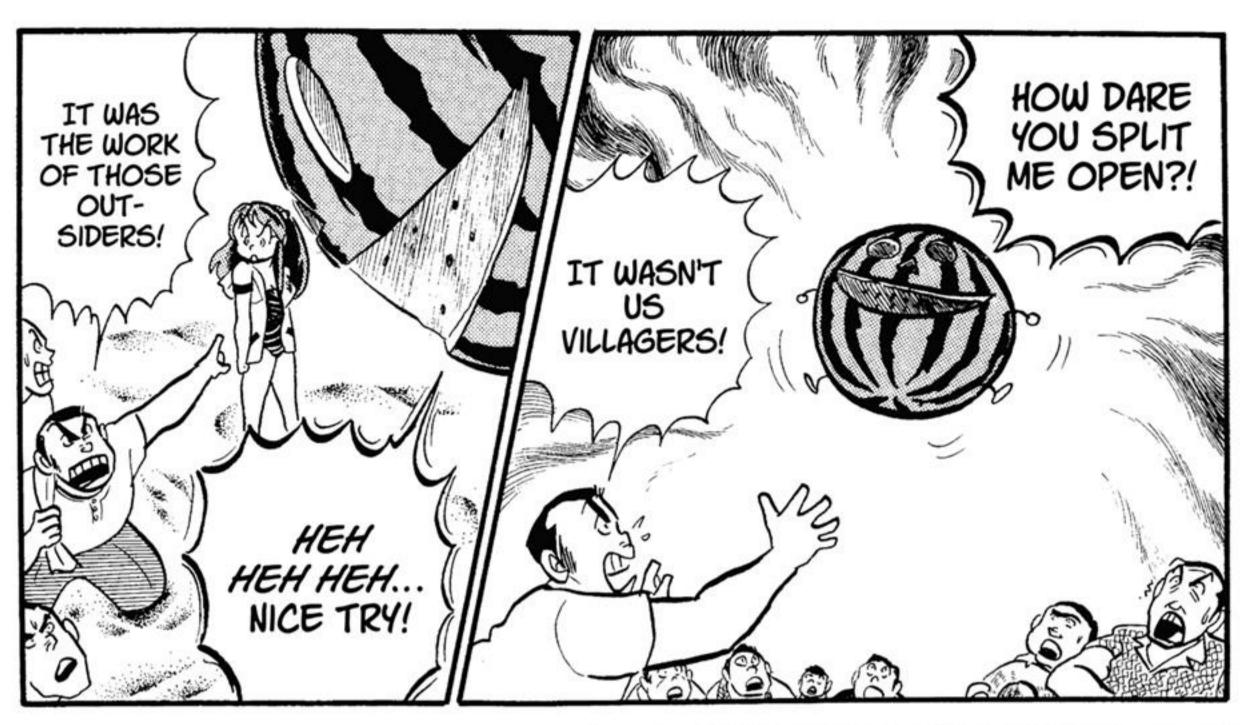


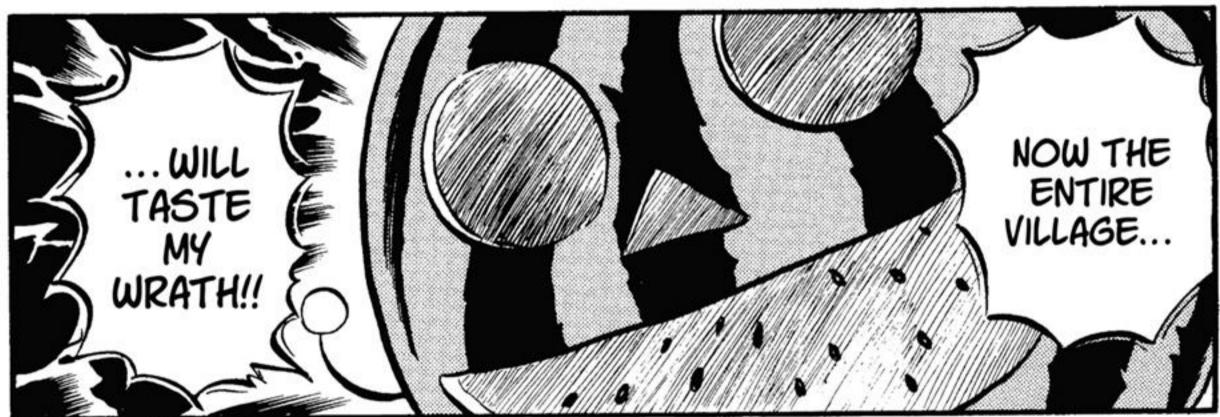


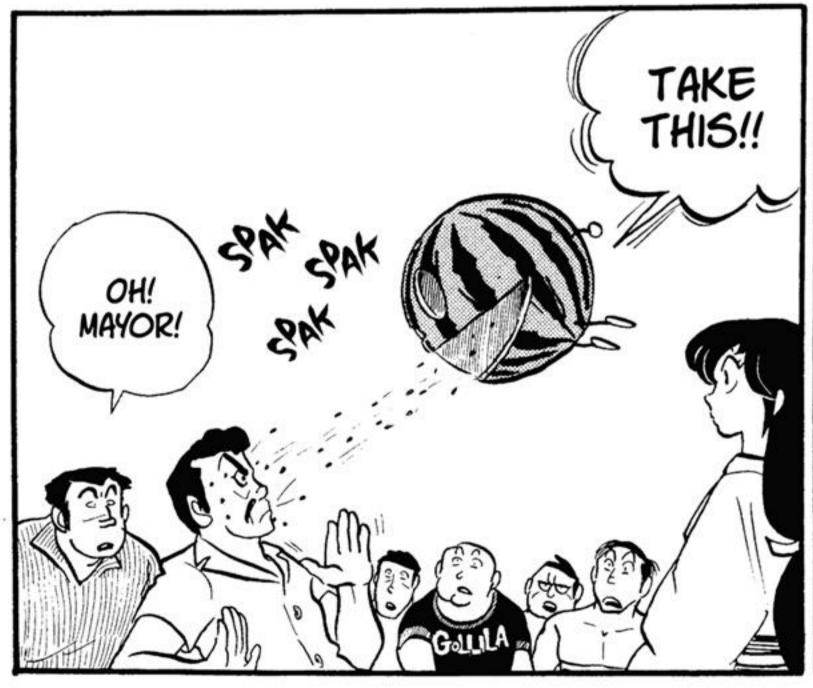




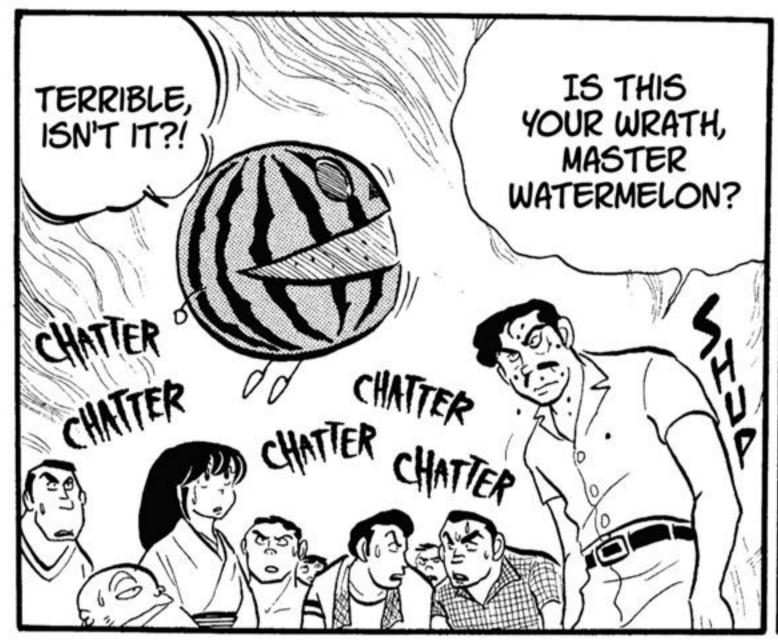




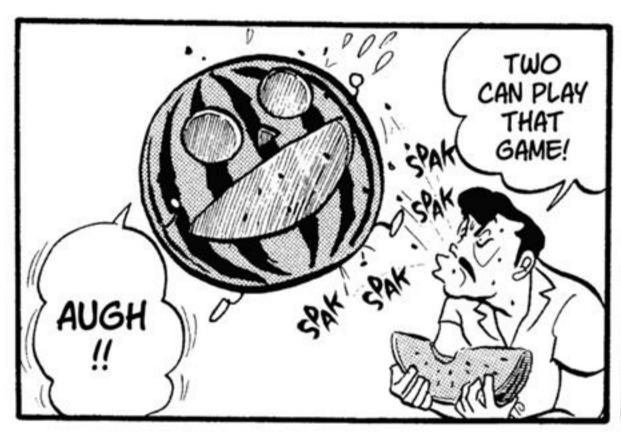


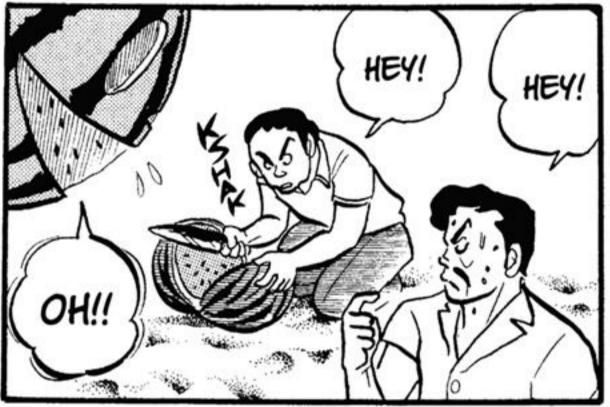


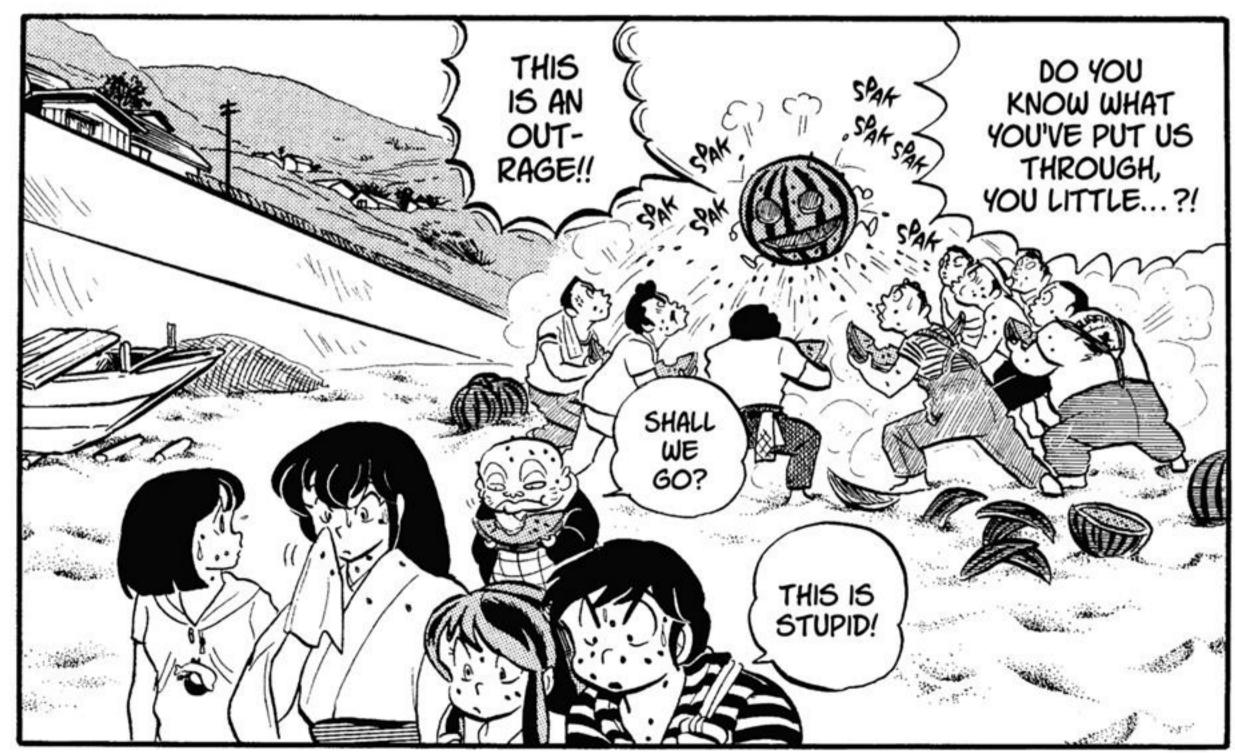




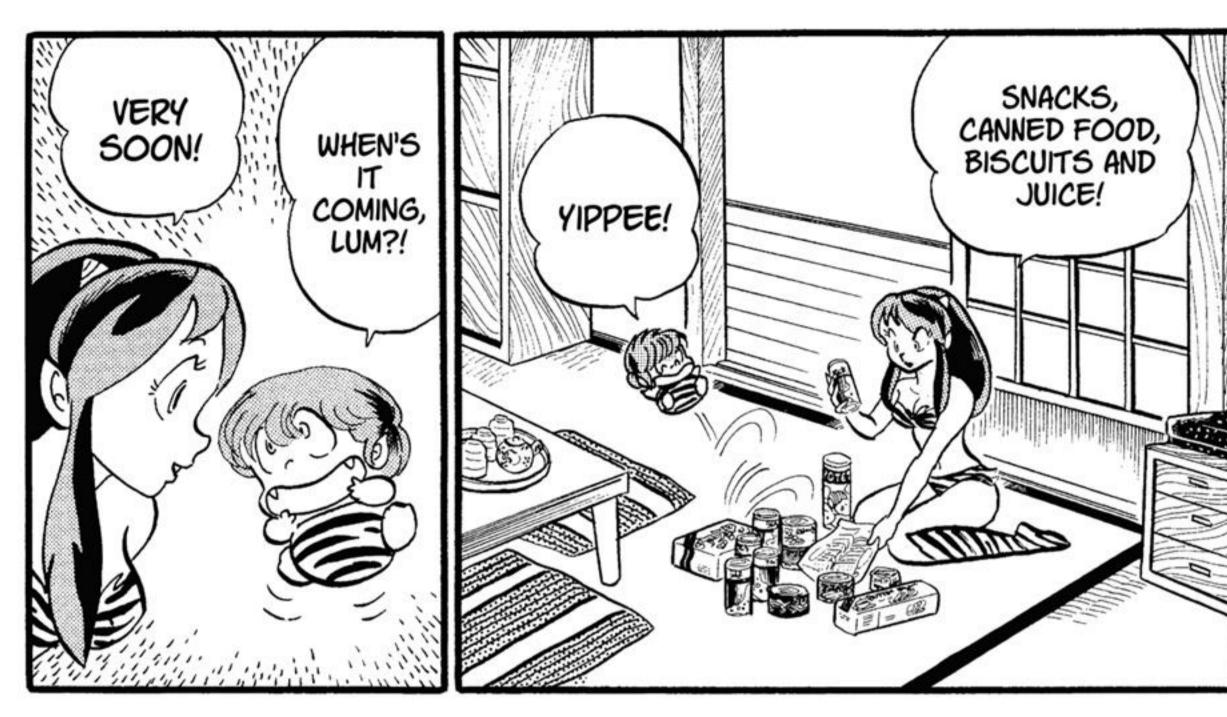


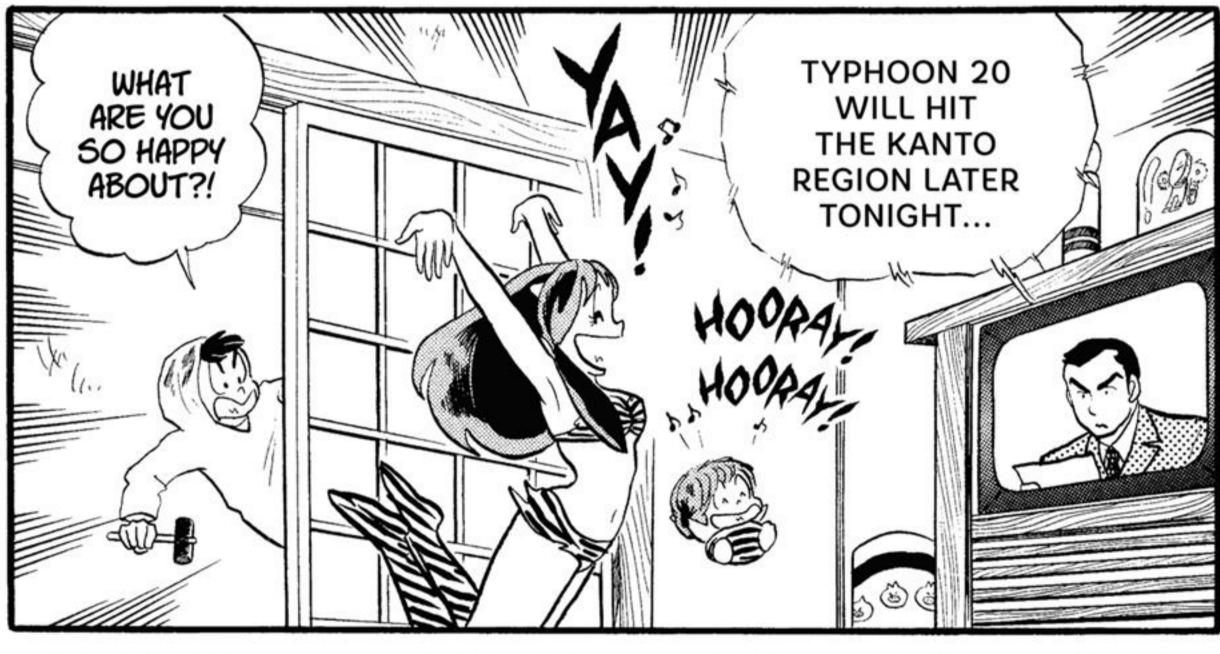








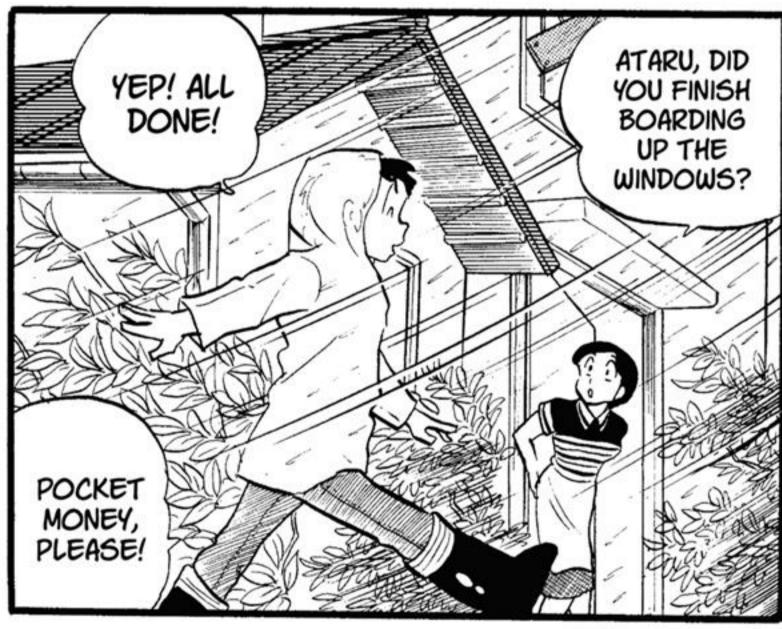


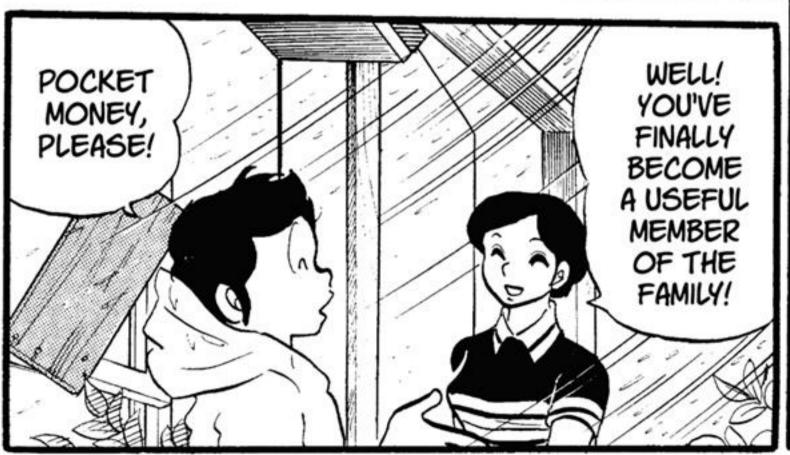








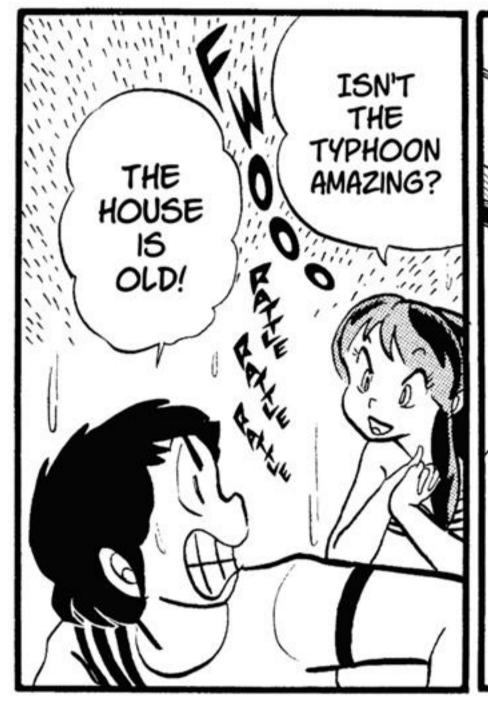




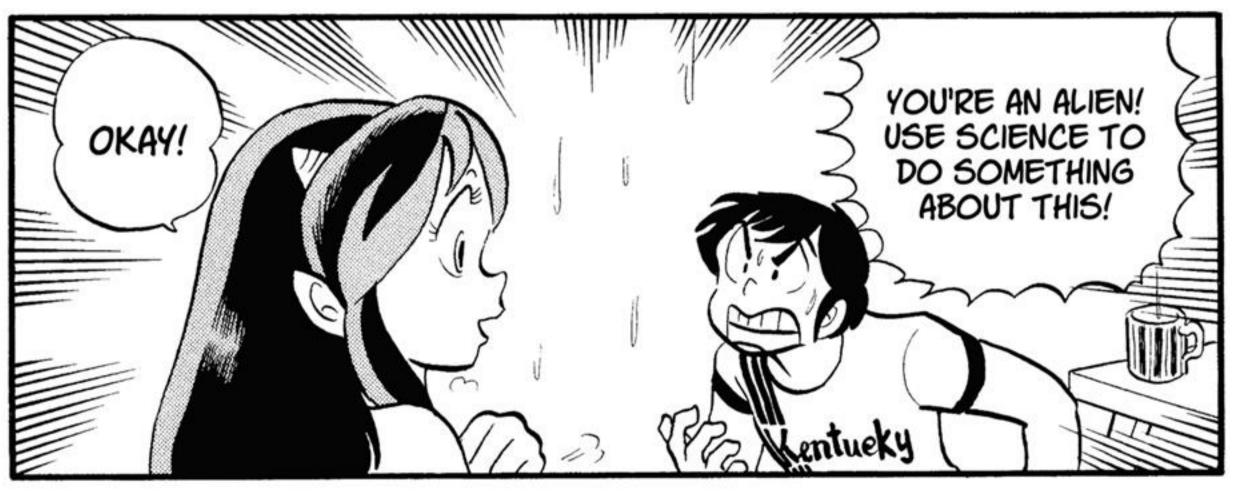


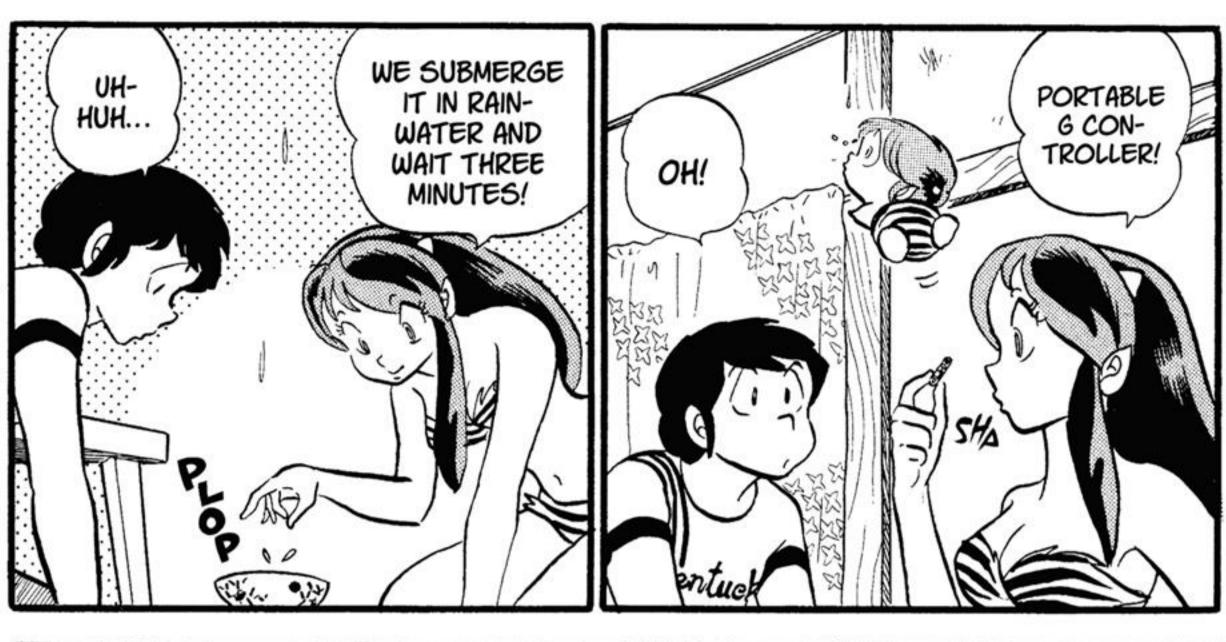


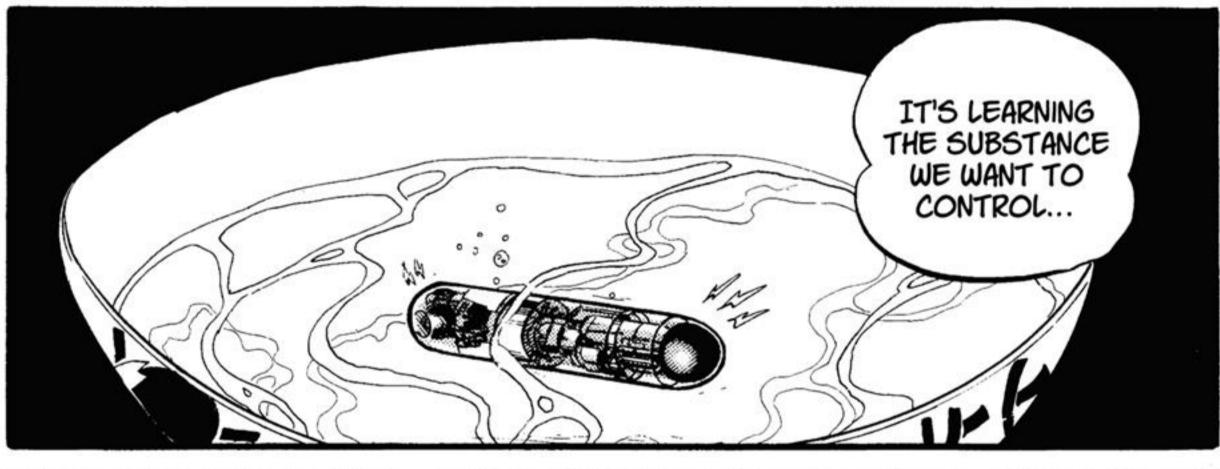


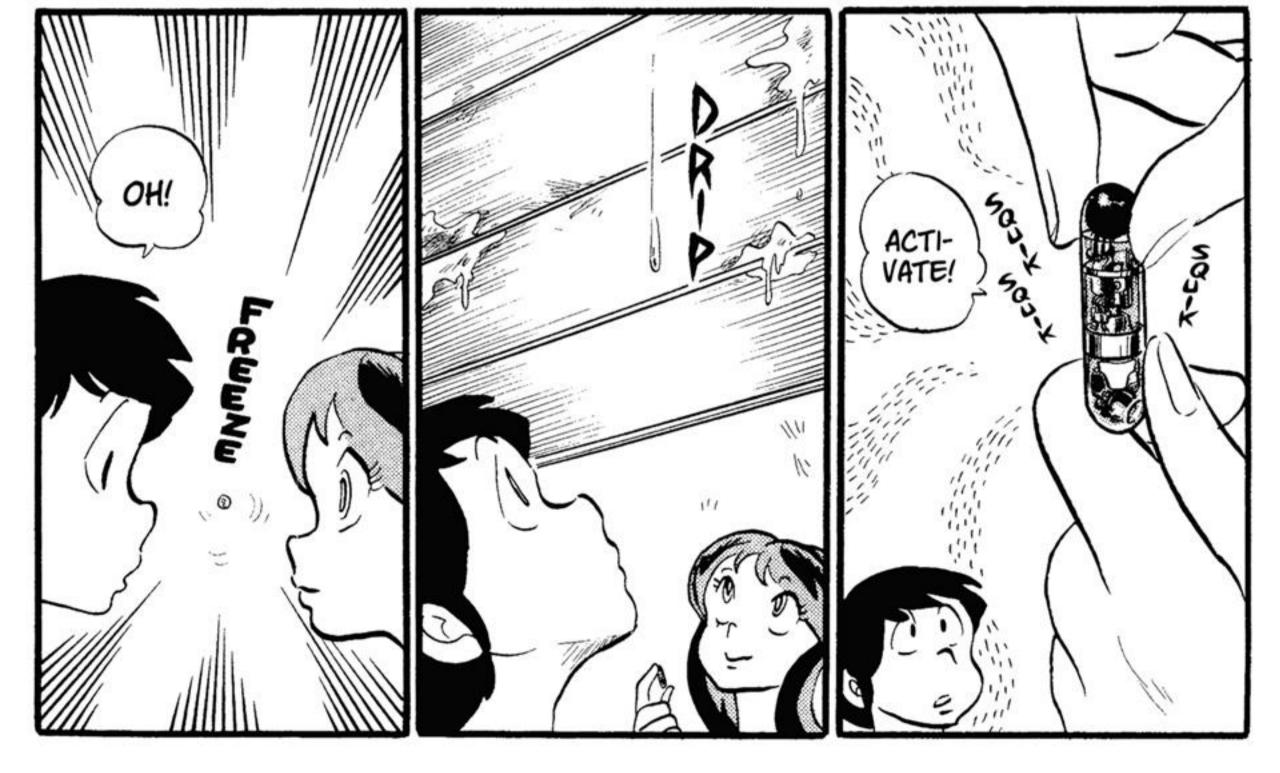








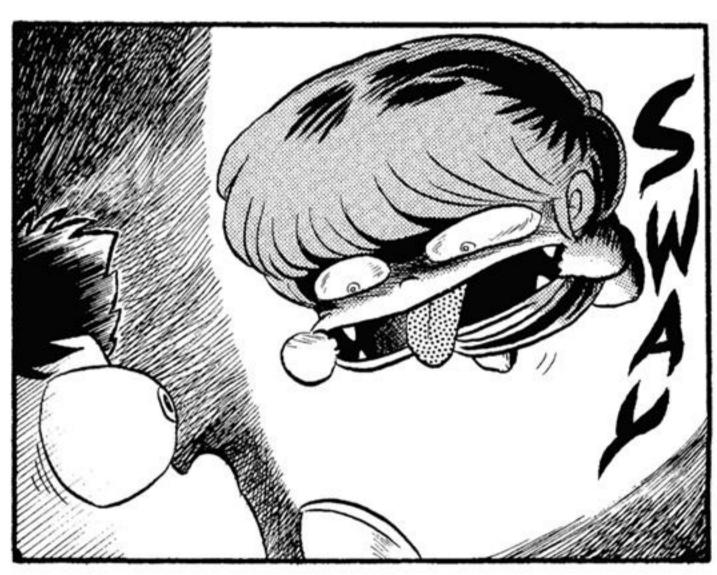








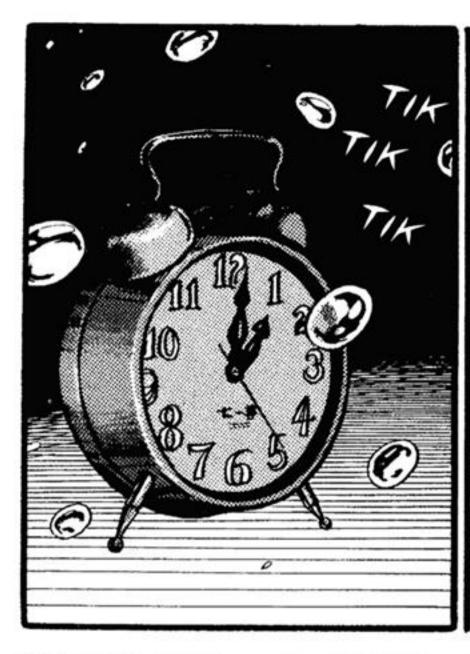


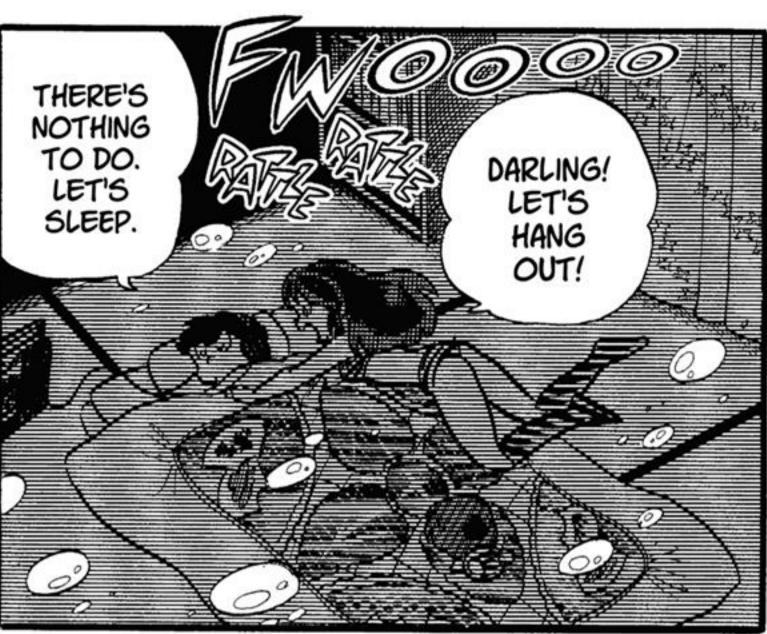








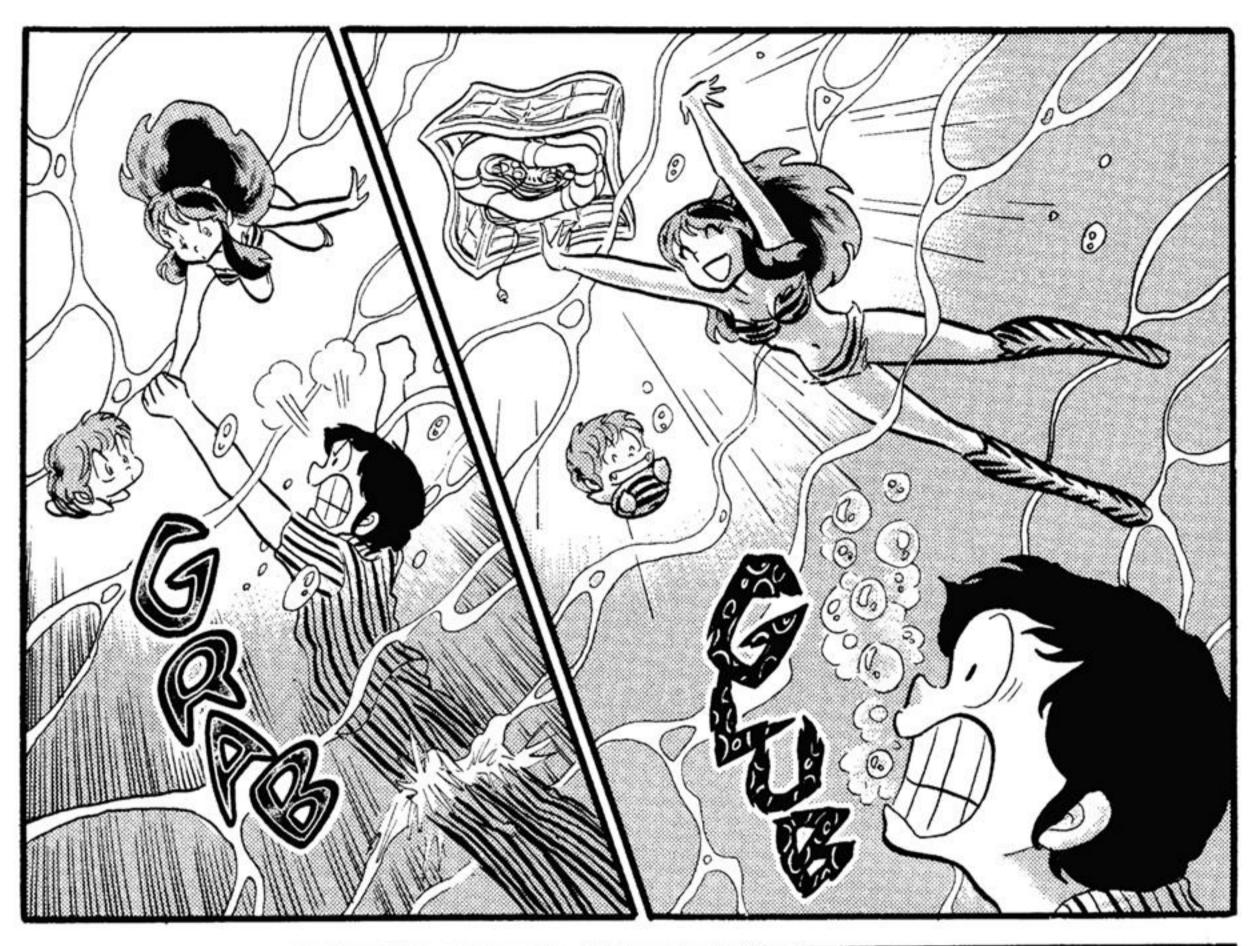


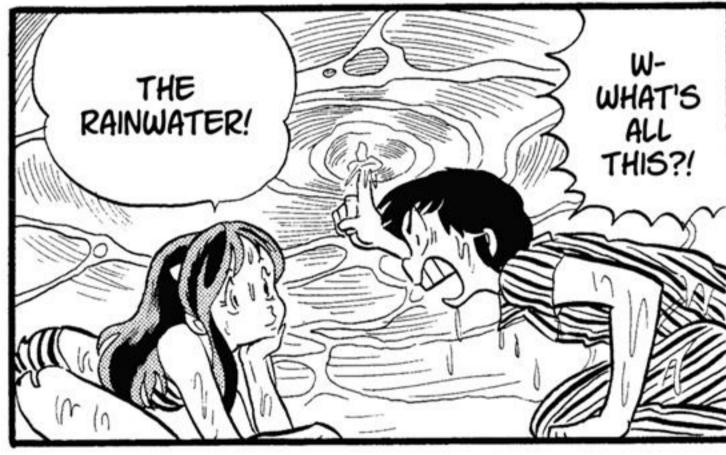


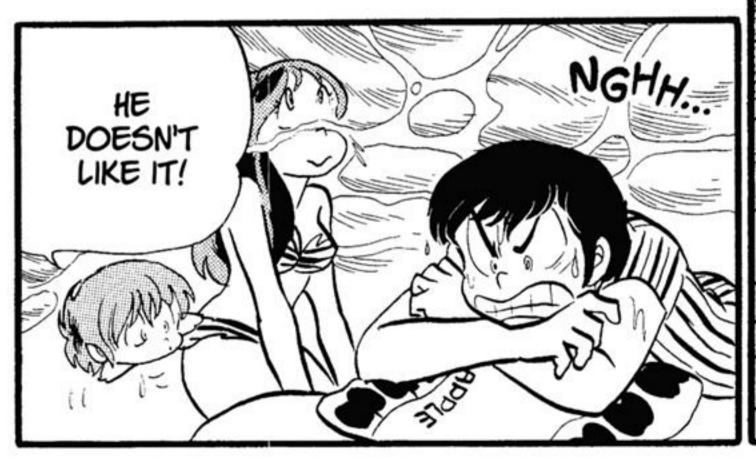








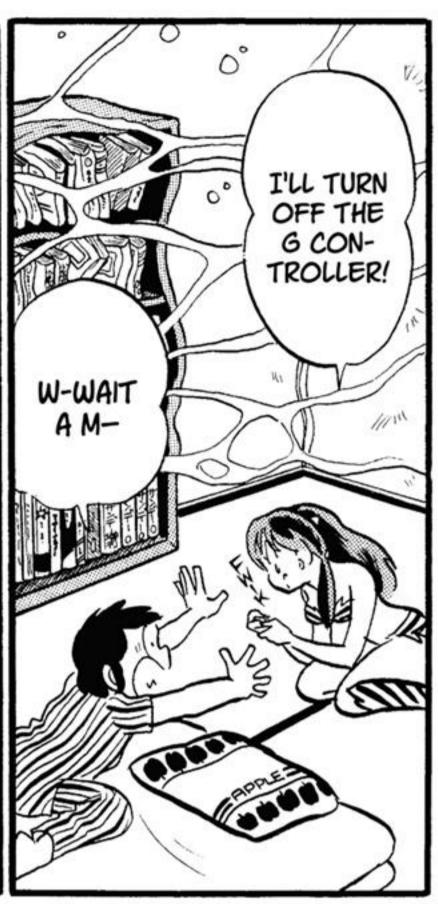




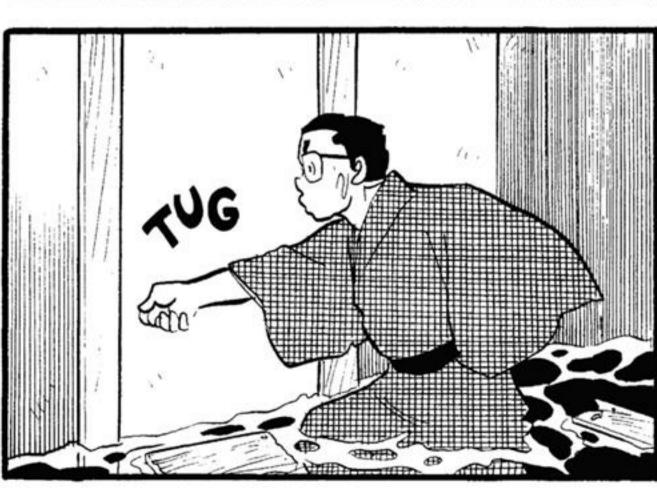




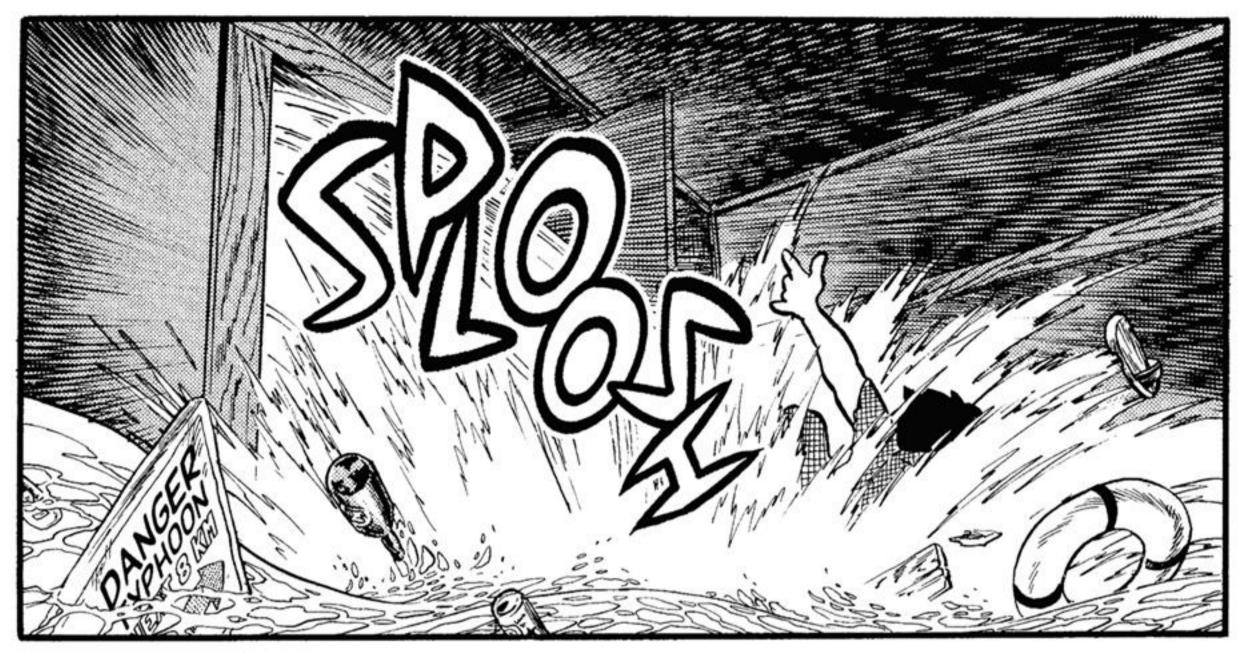


































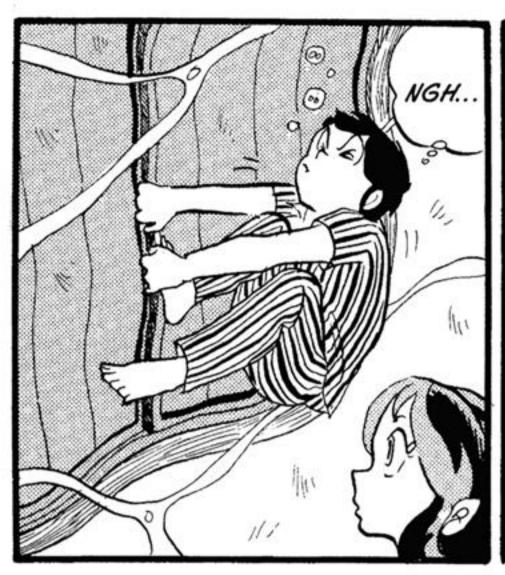


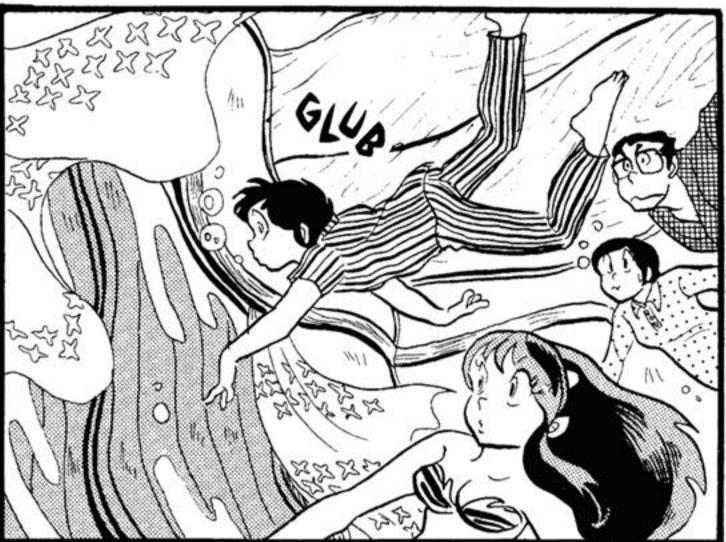




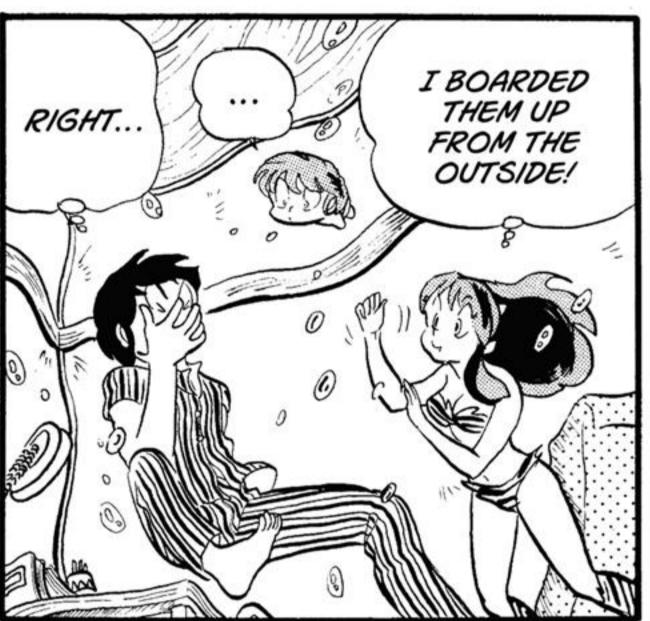


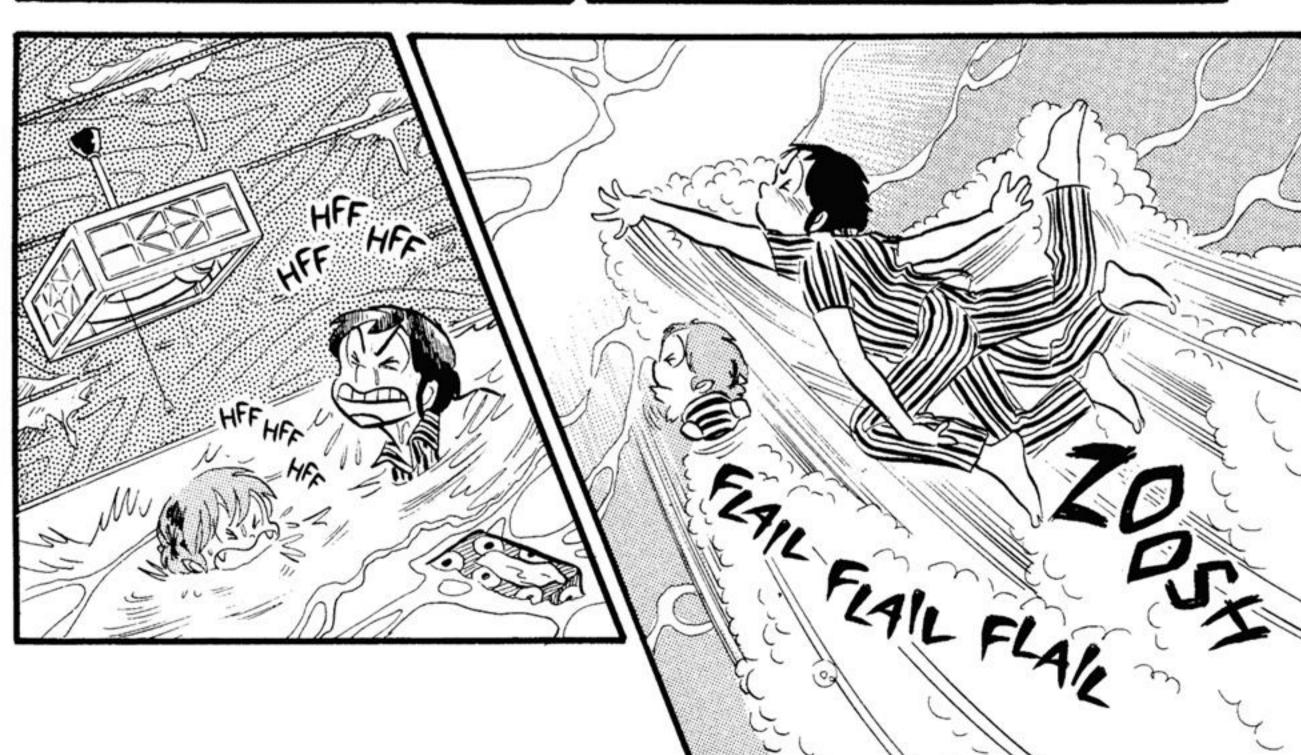














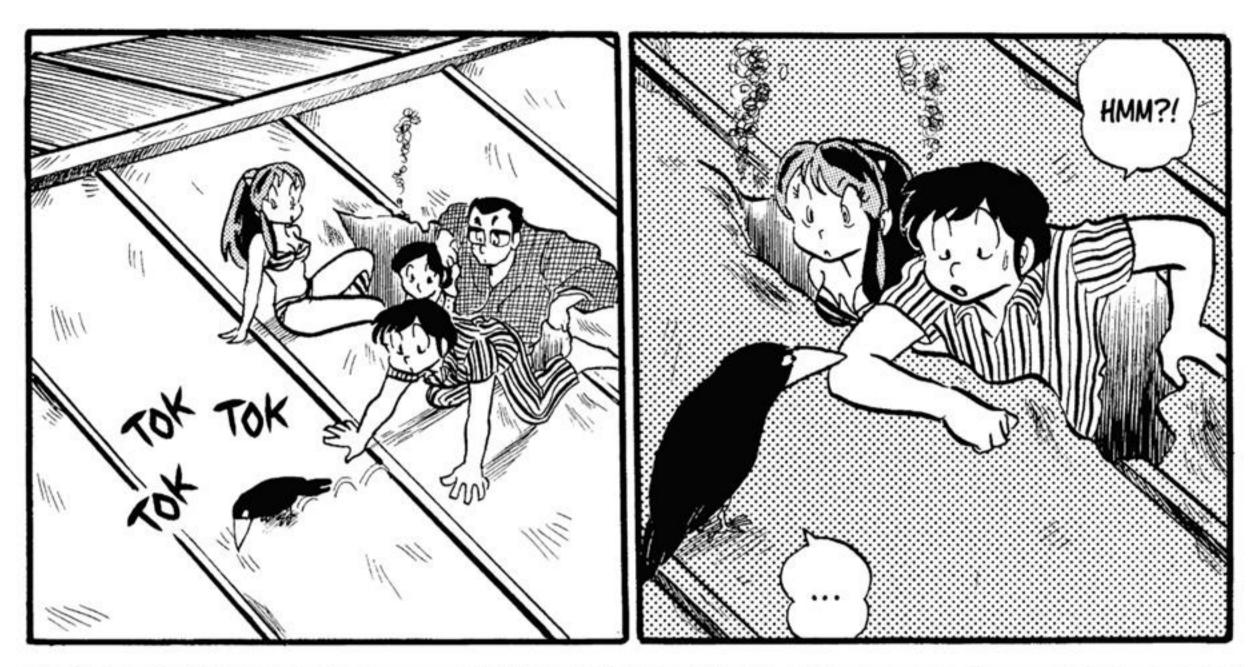












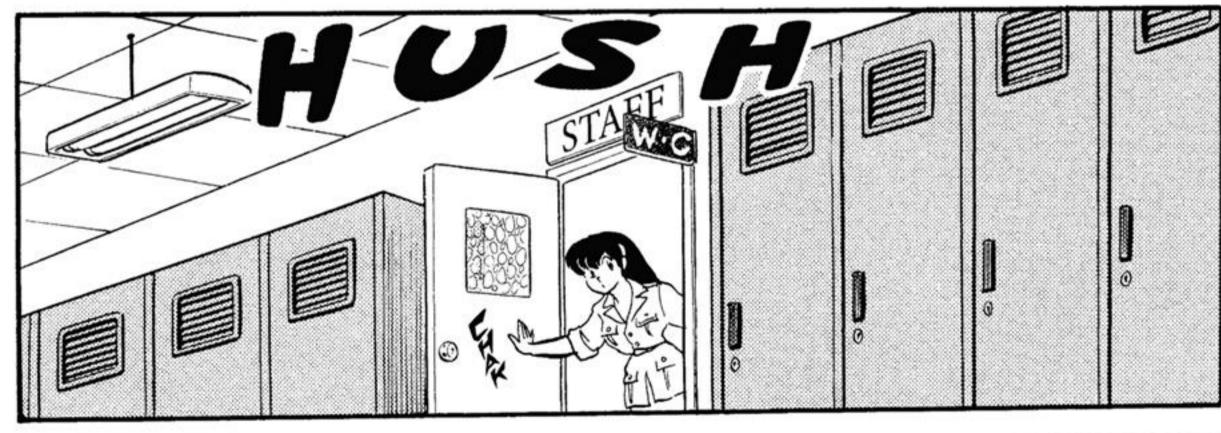


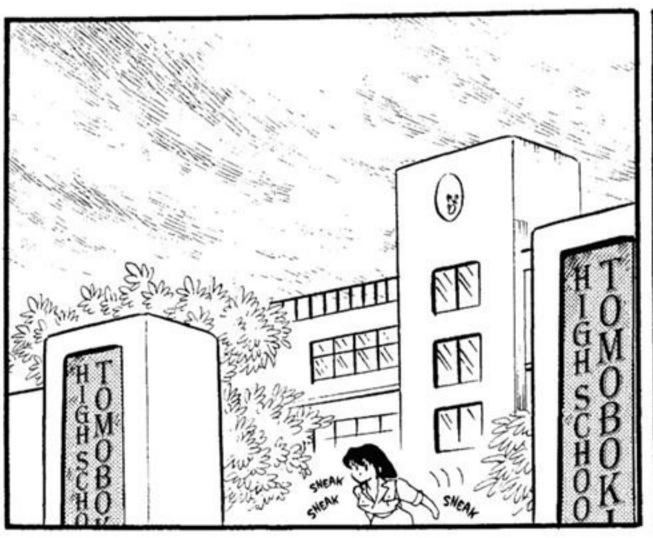


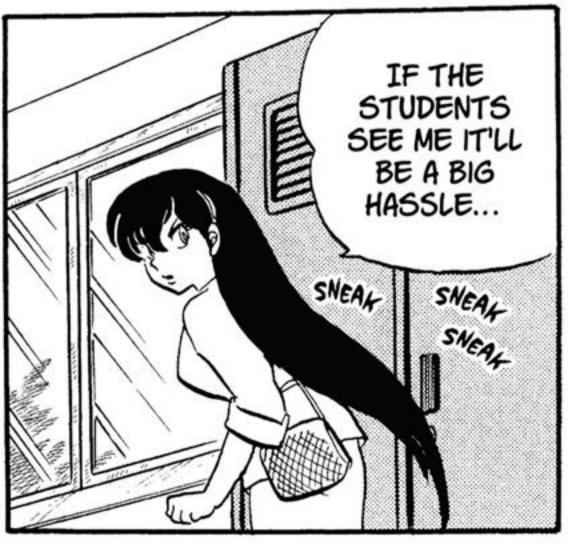


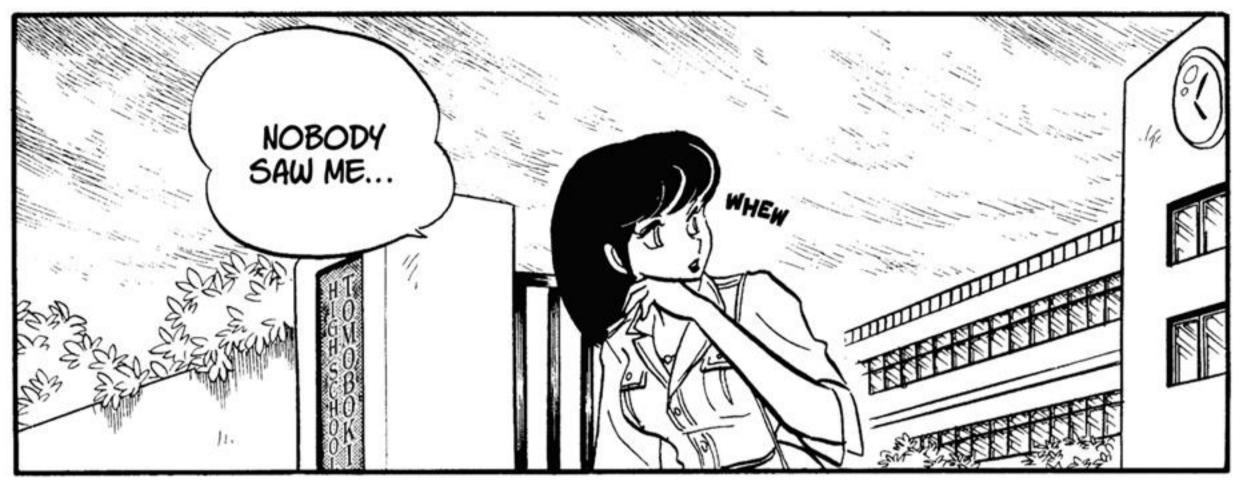


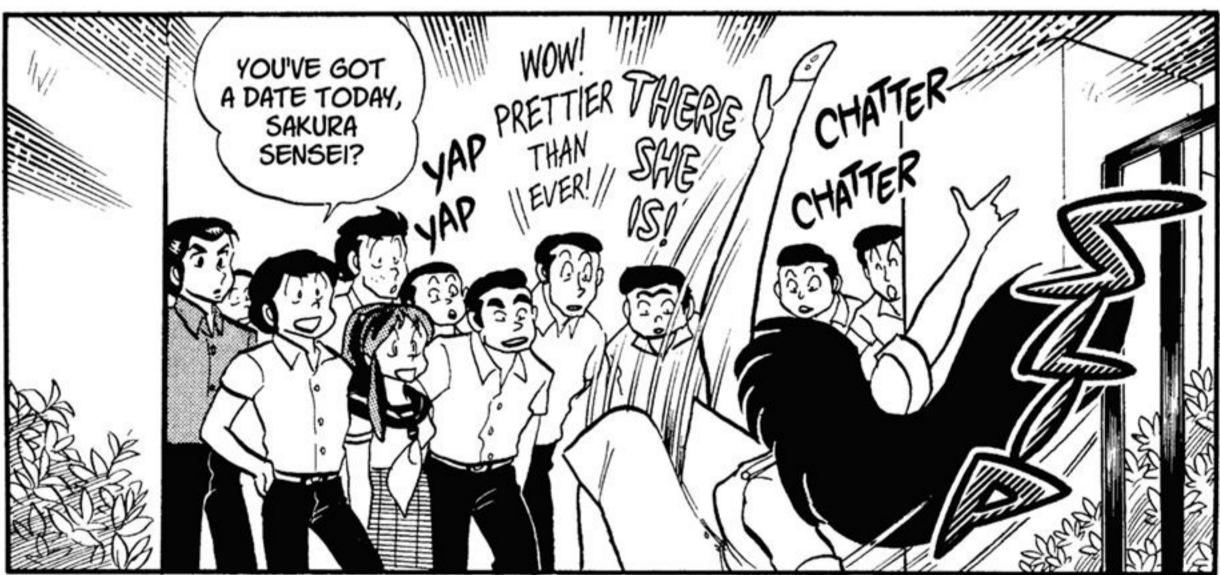


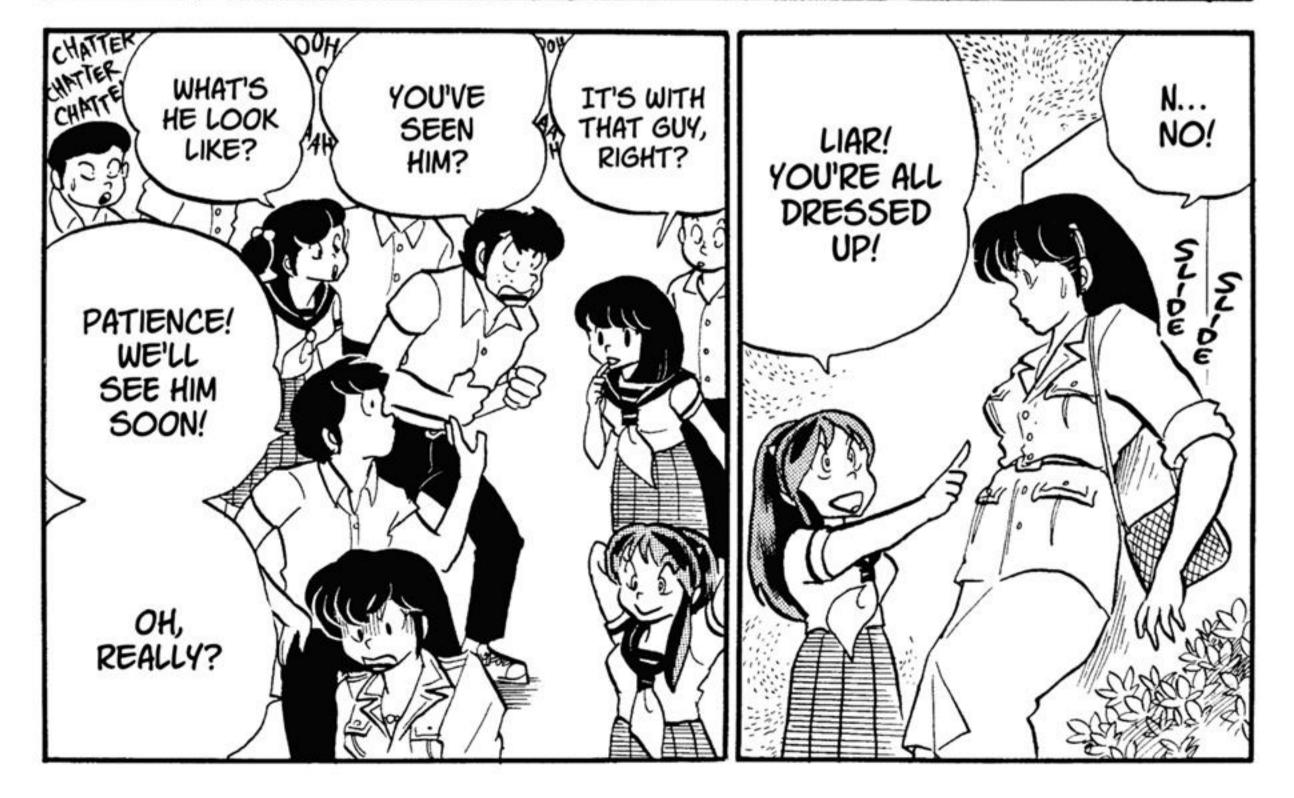


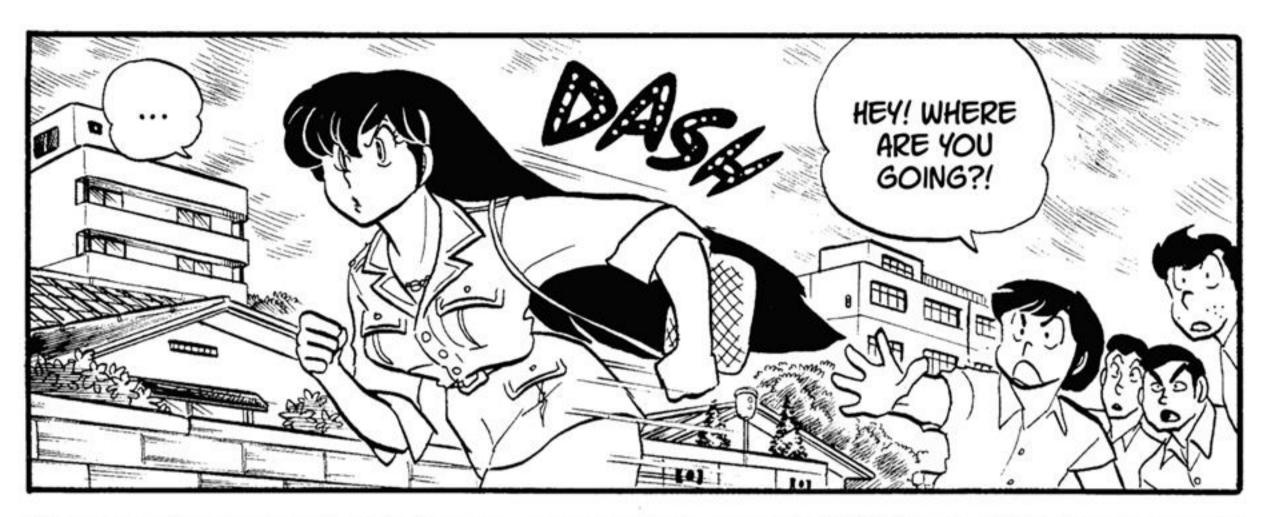














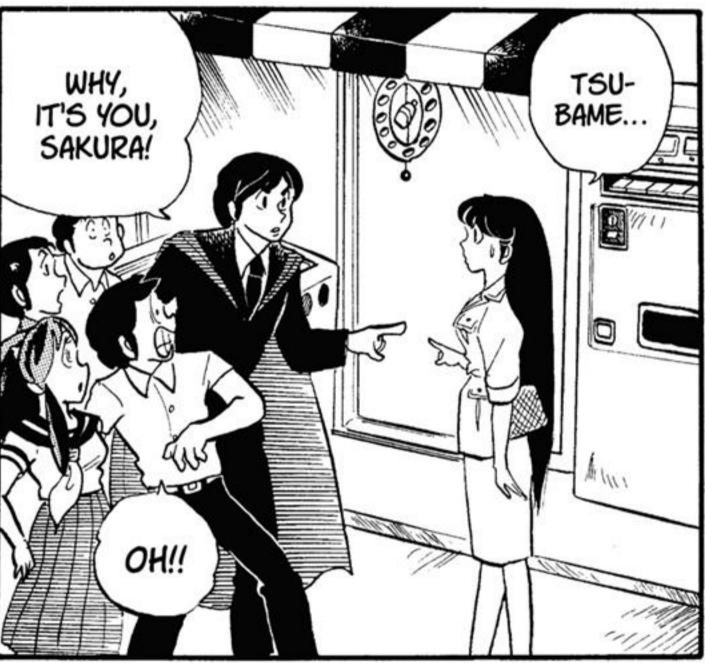


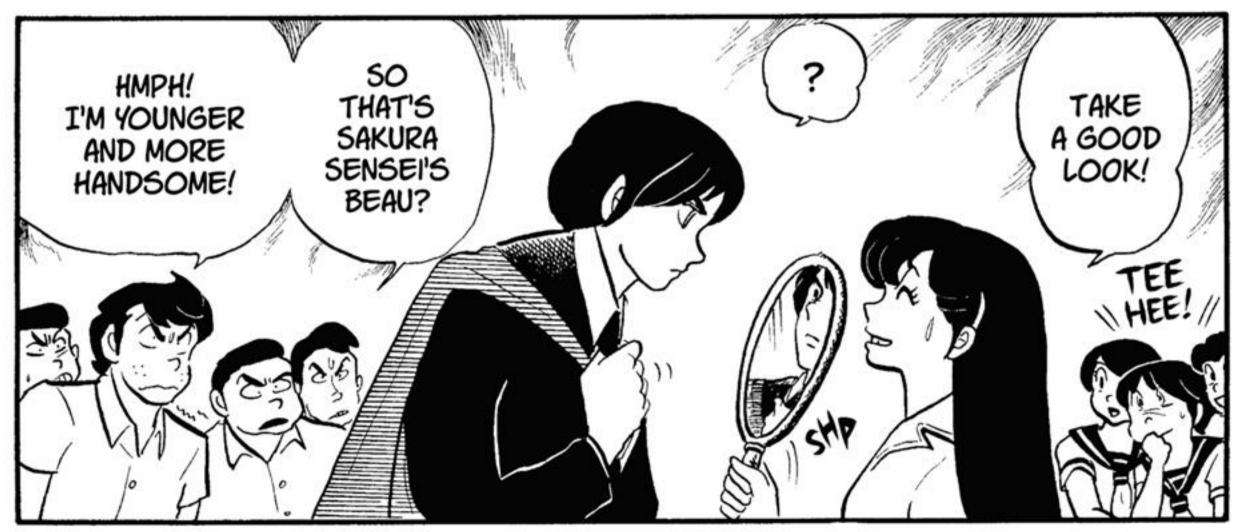






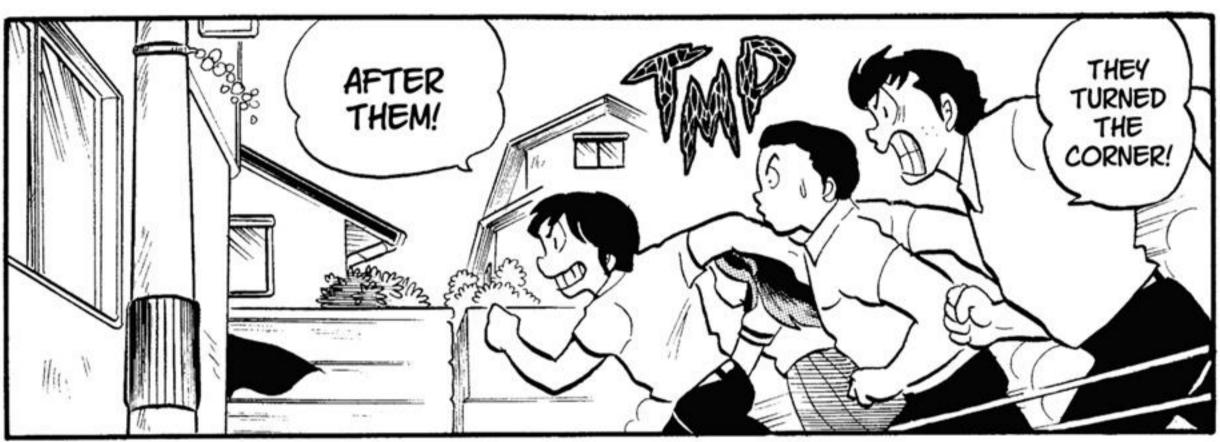










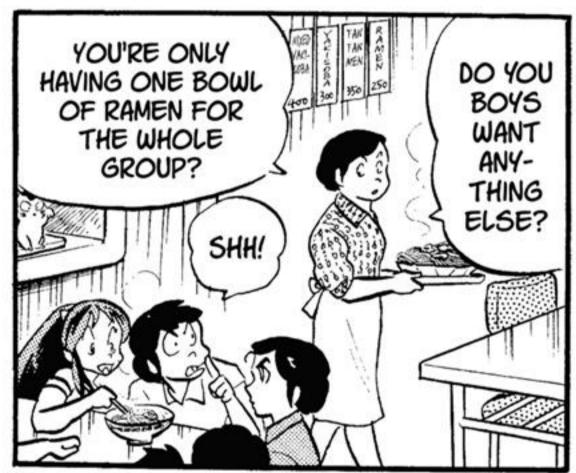






















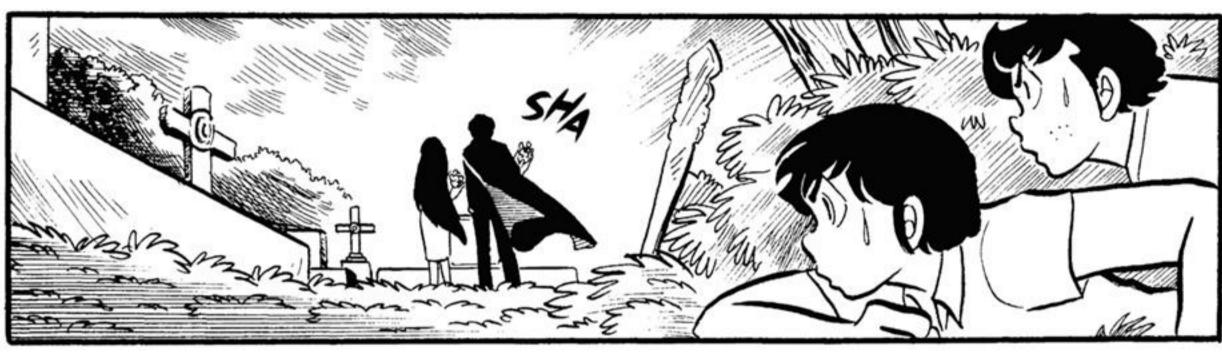










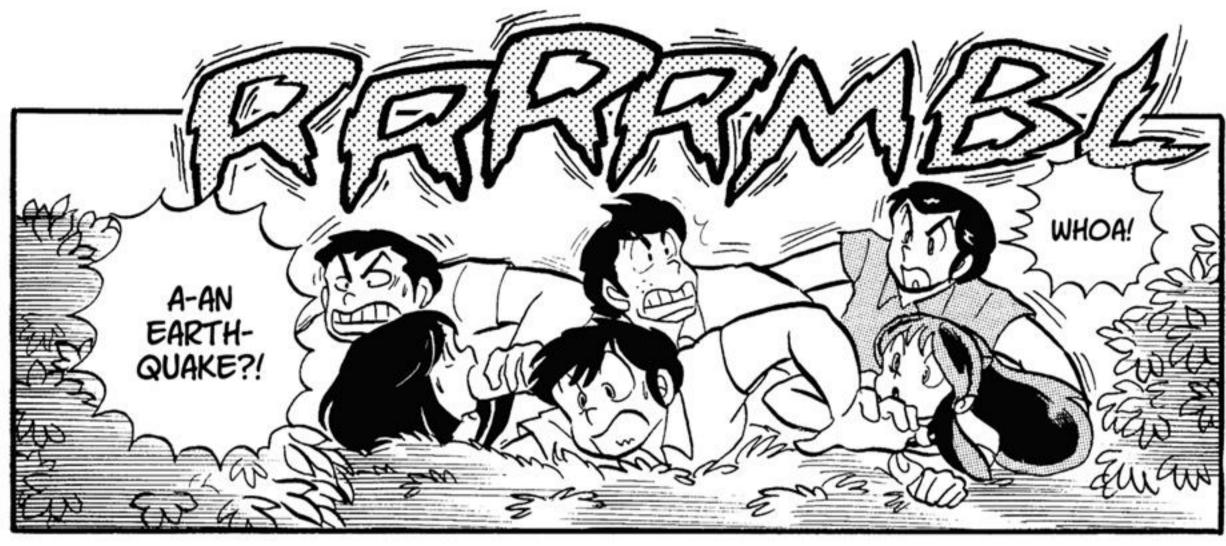






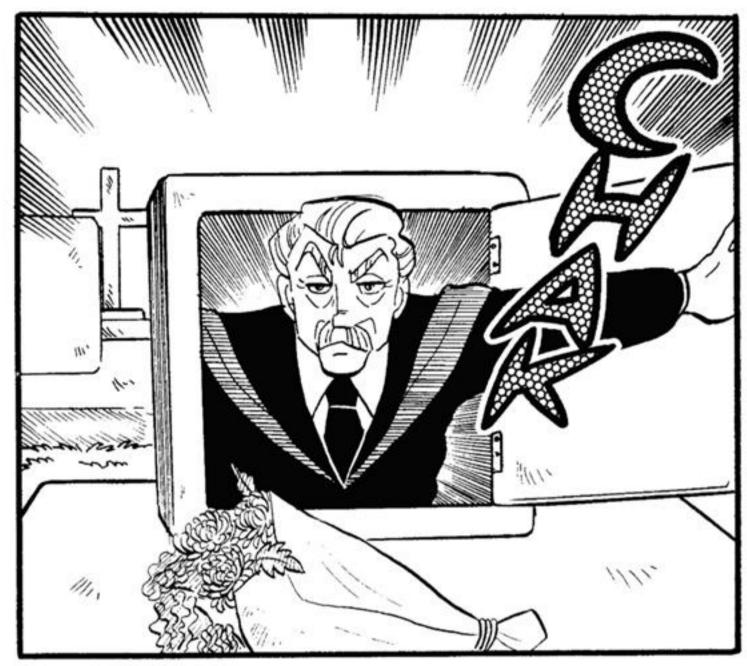




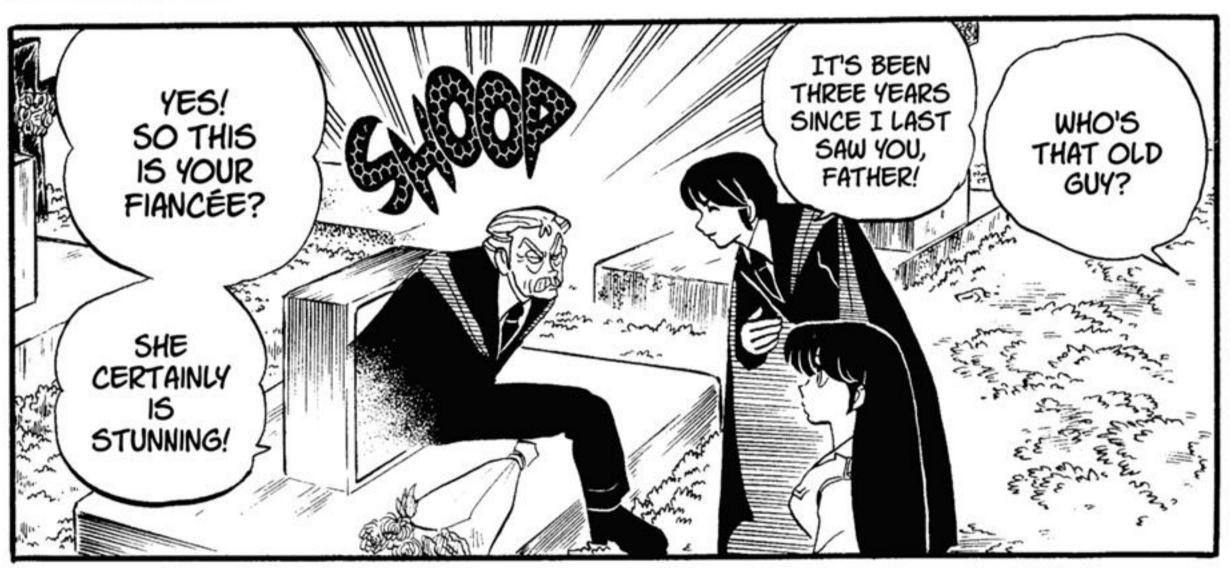










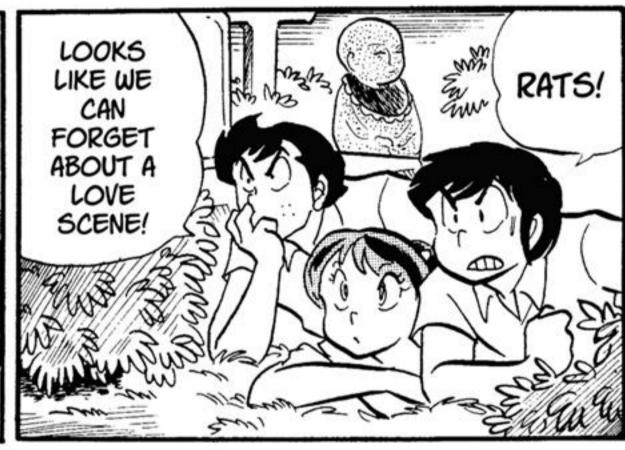






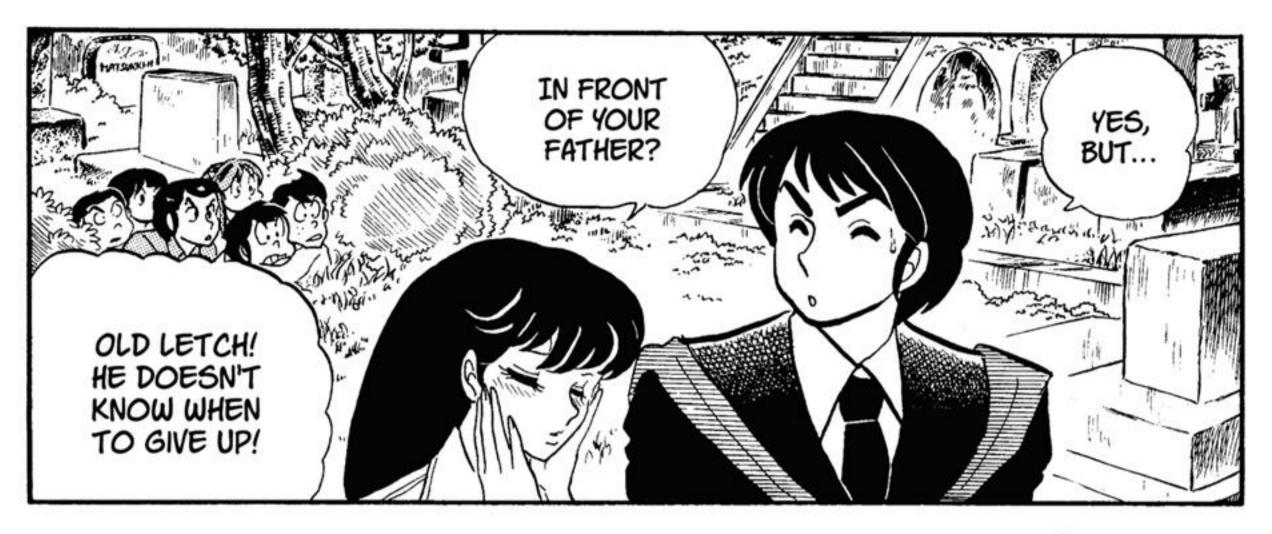












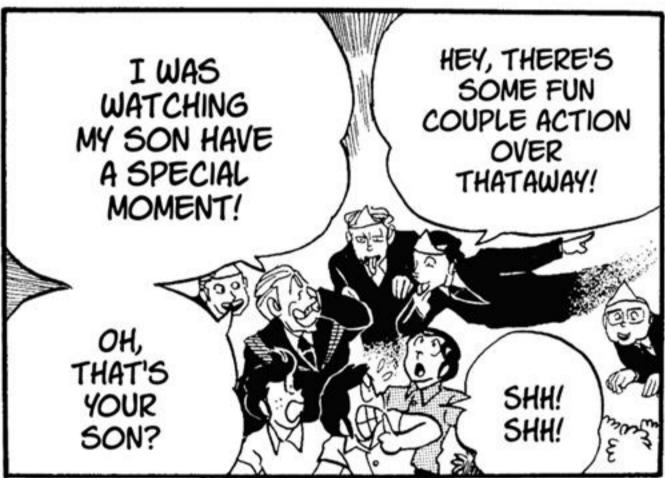














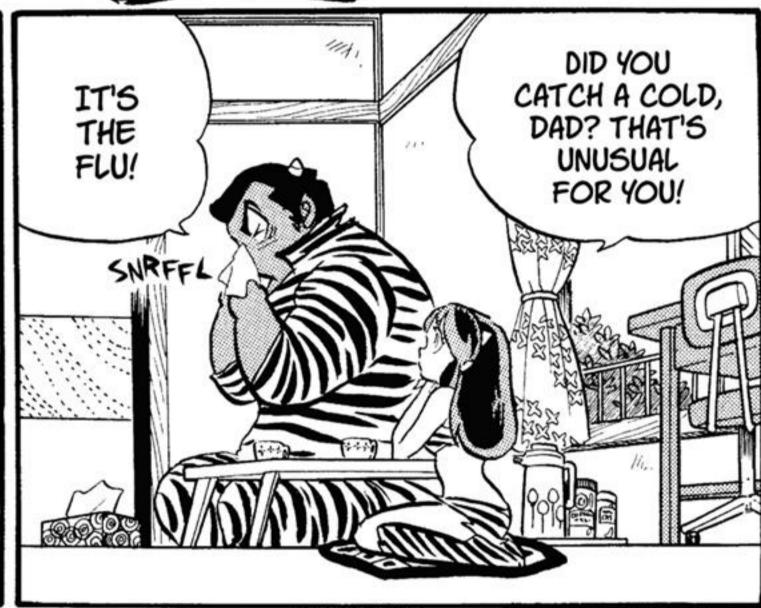


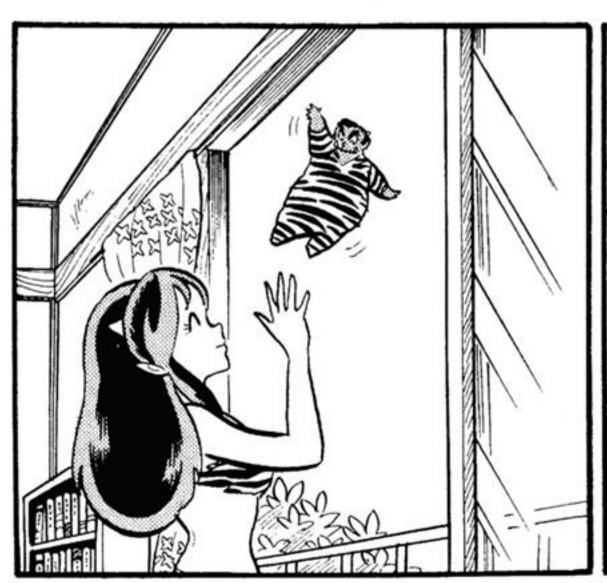
CHAPTER 20: IT'S NO FUN BEING SICK!

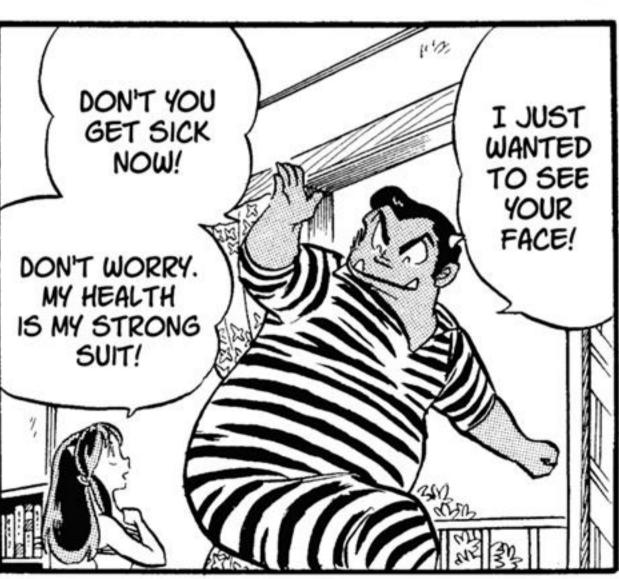






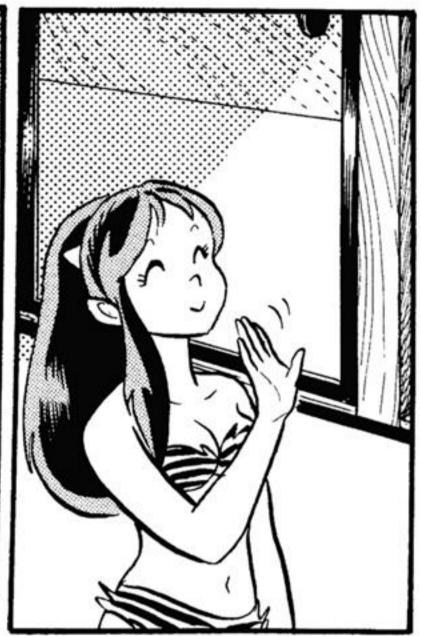


















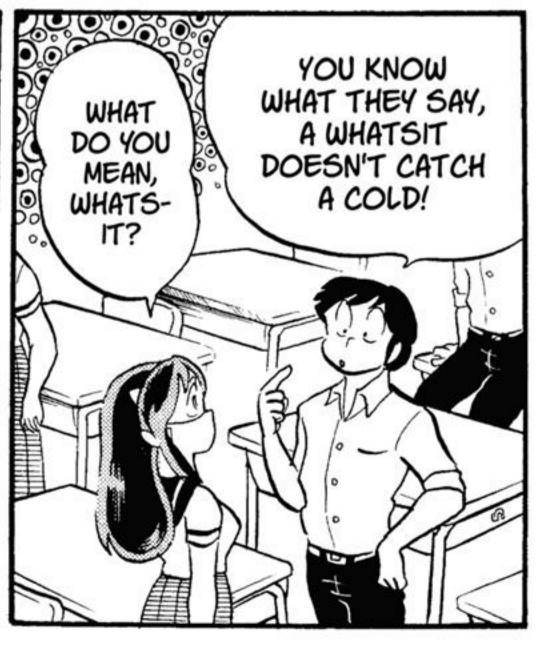


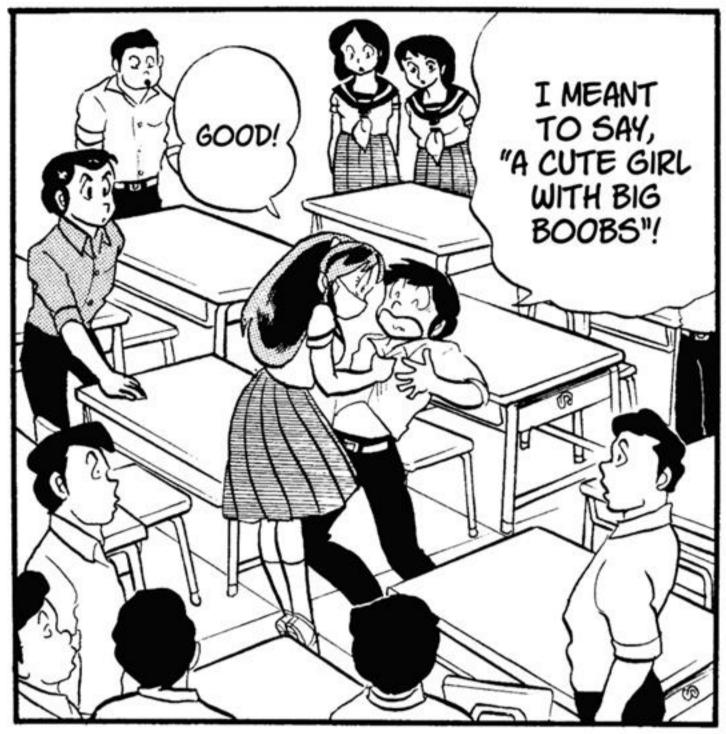




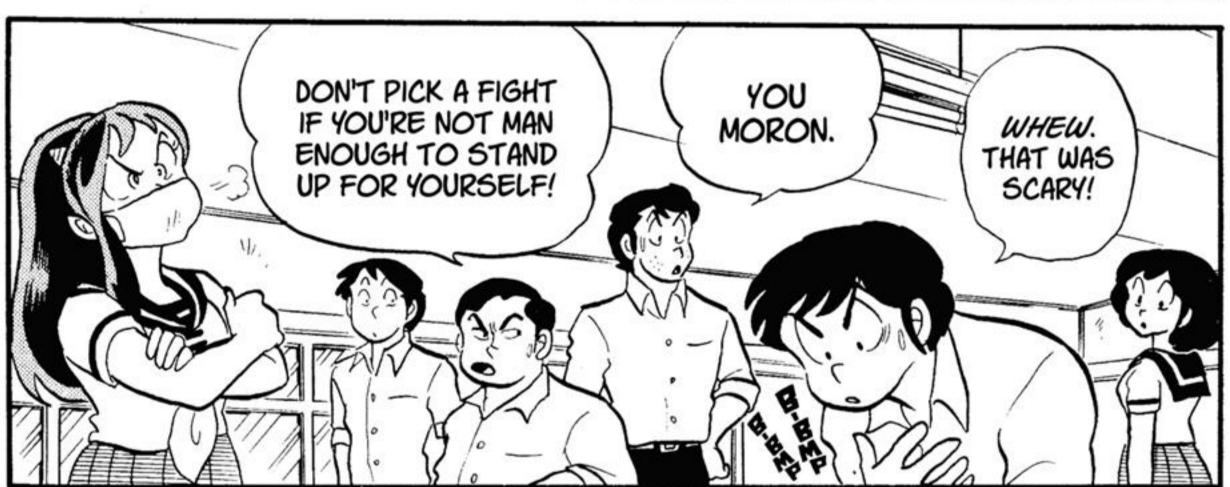


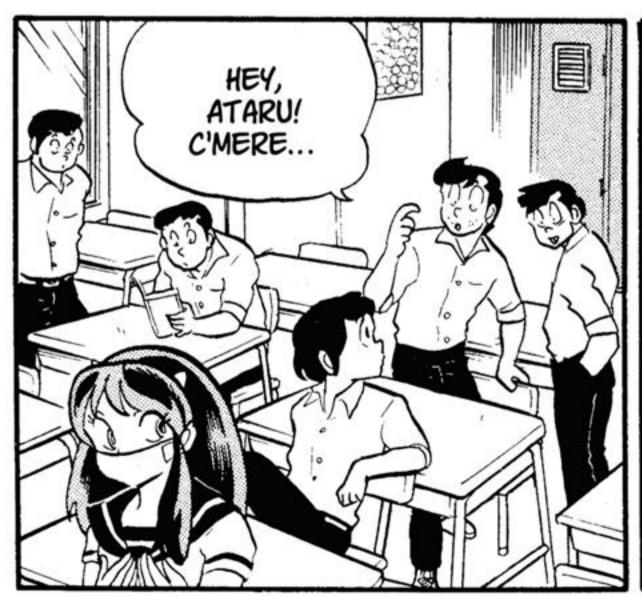
















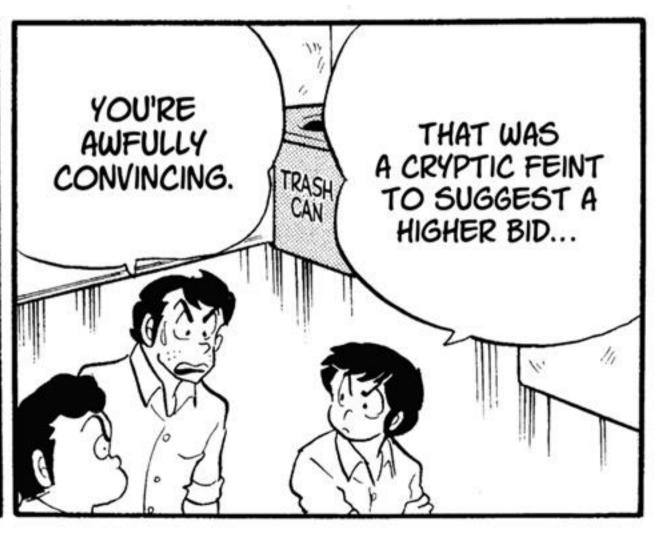










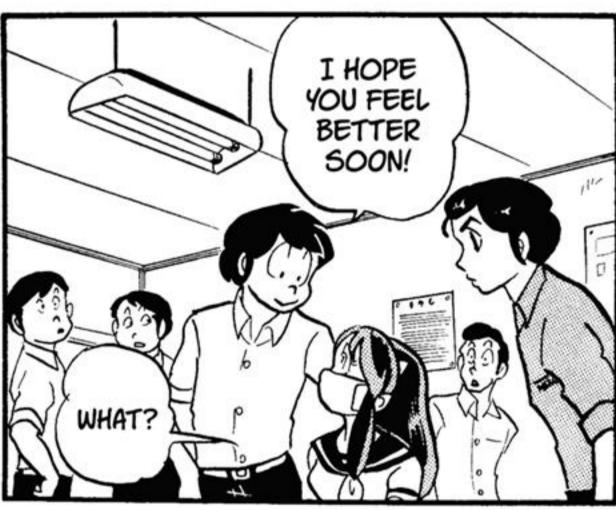








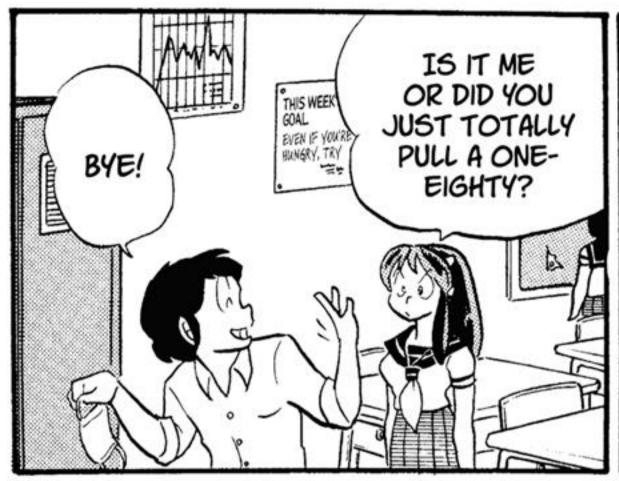


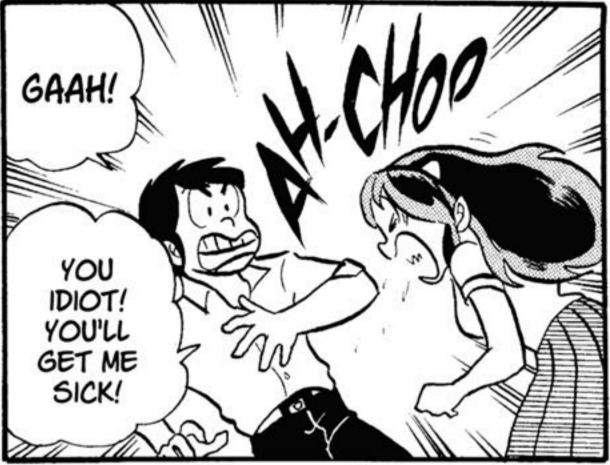


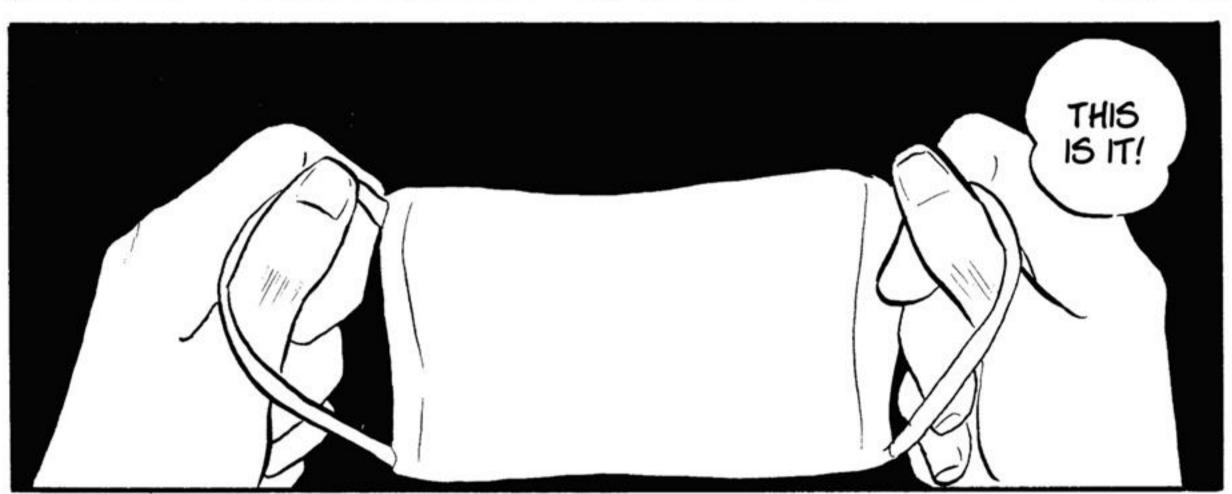












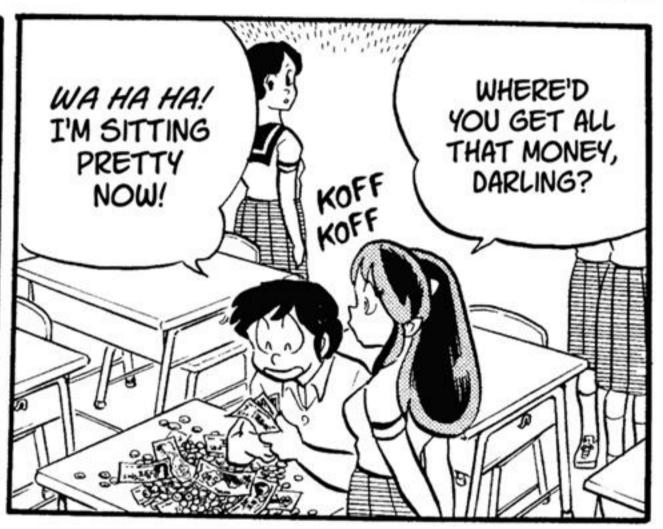












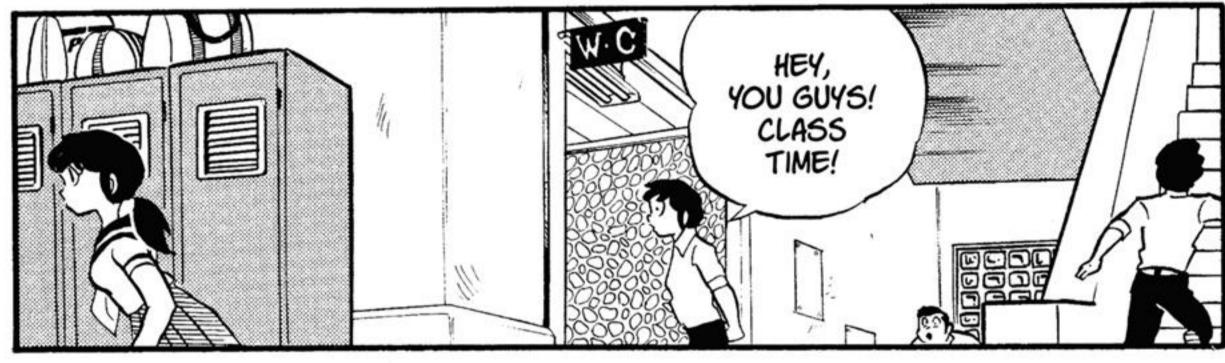
















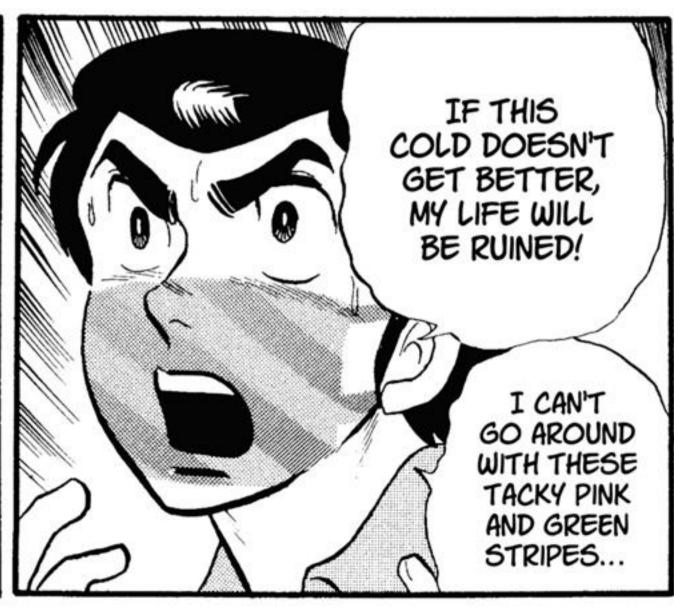










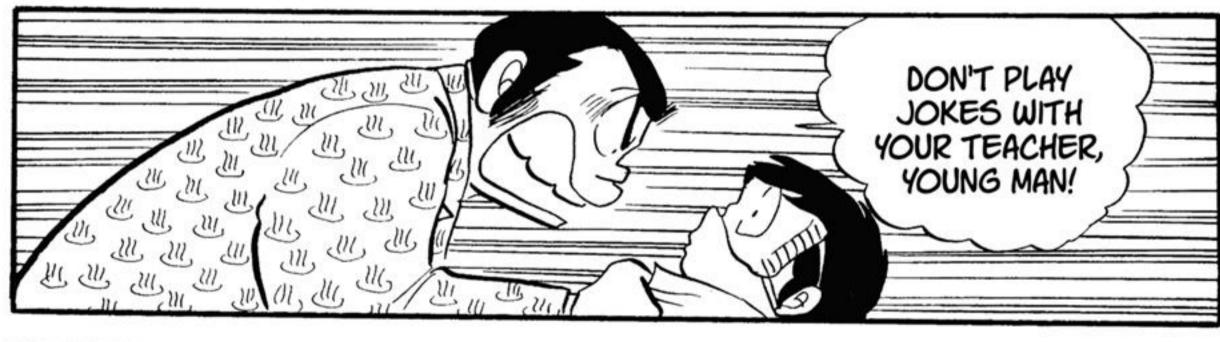






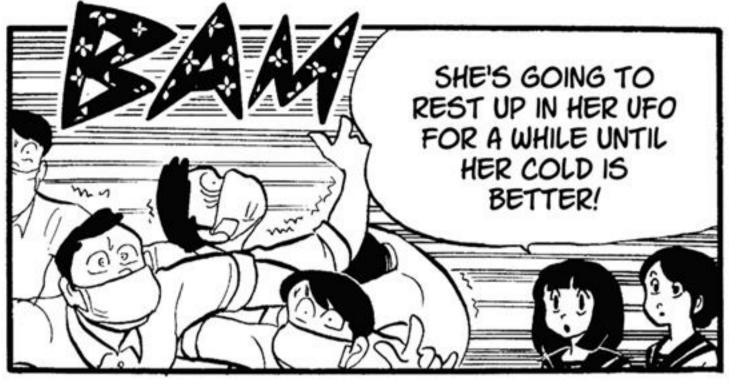


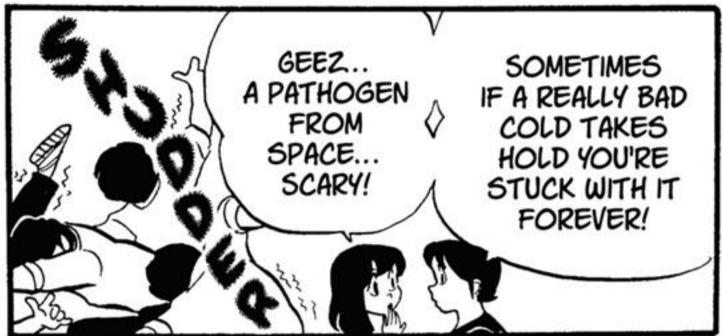




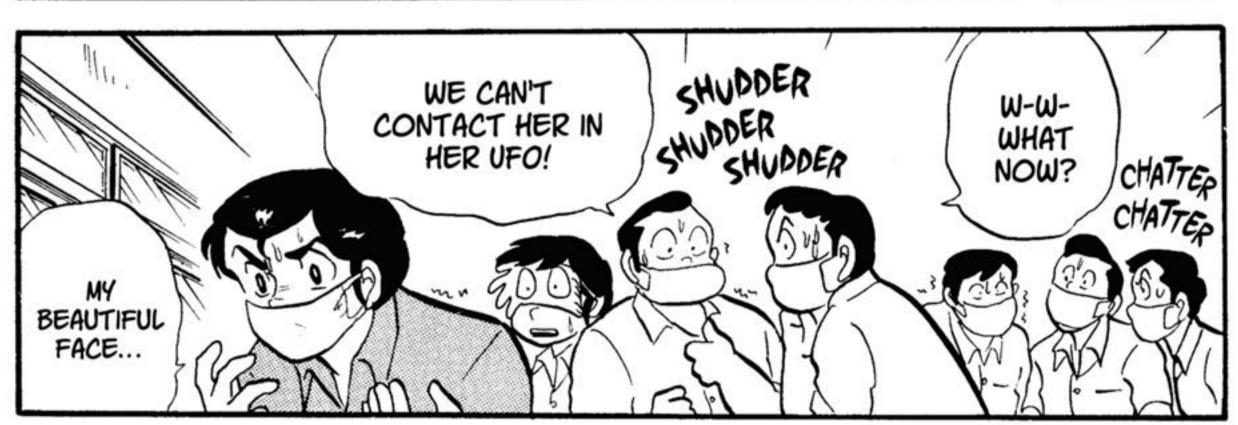














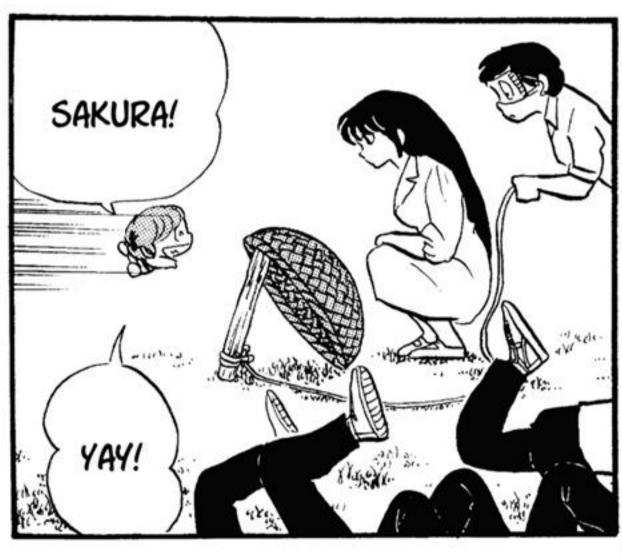


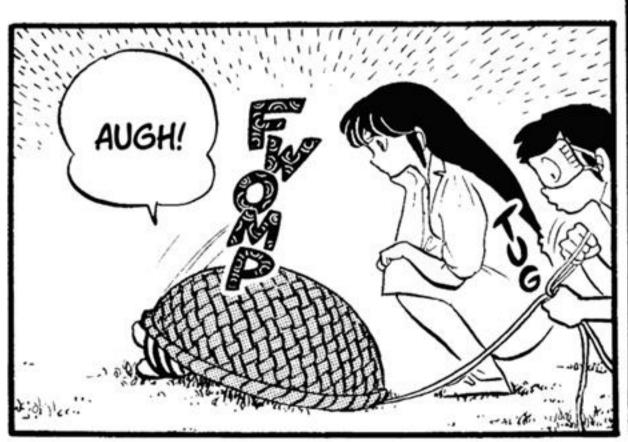


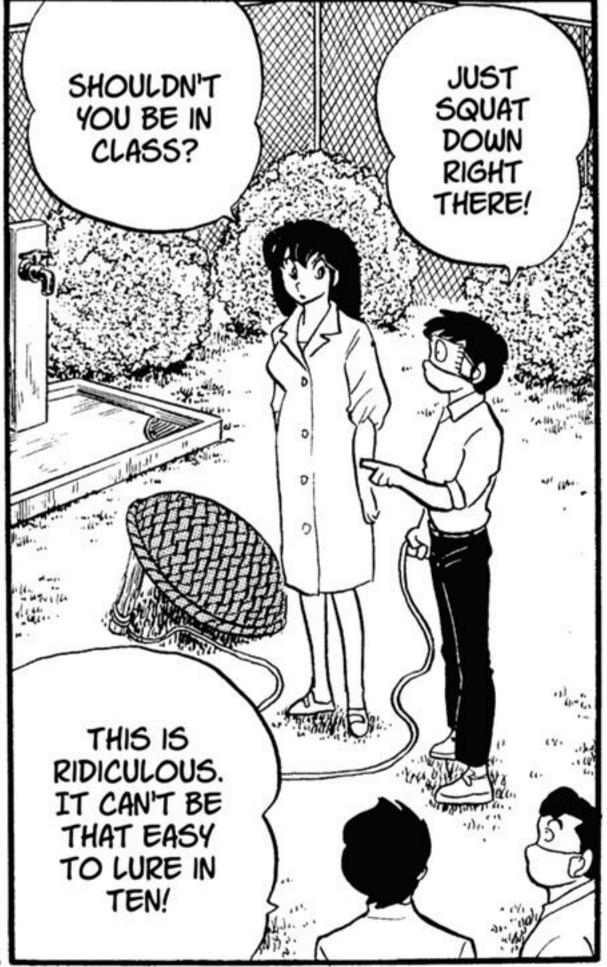


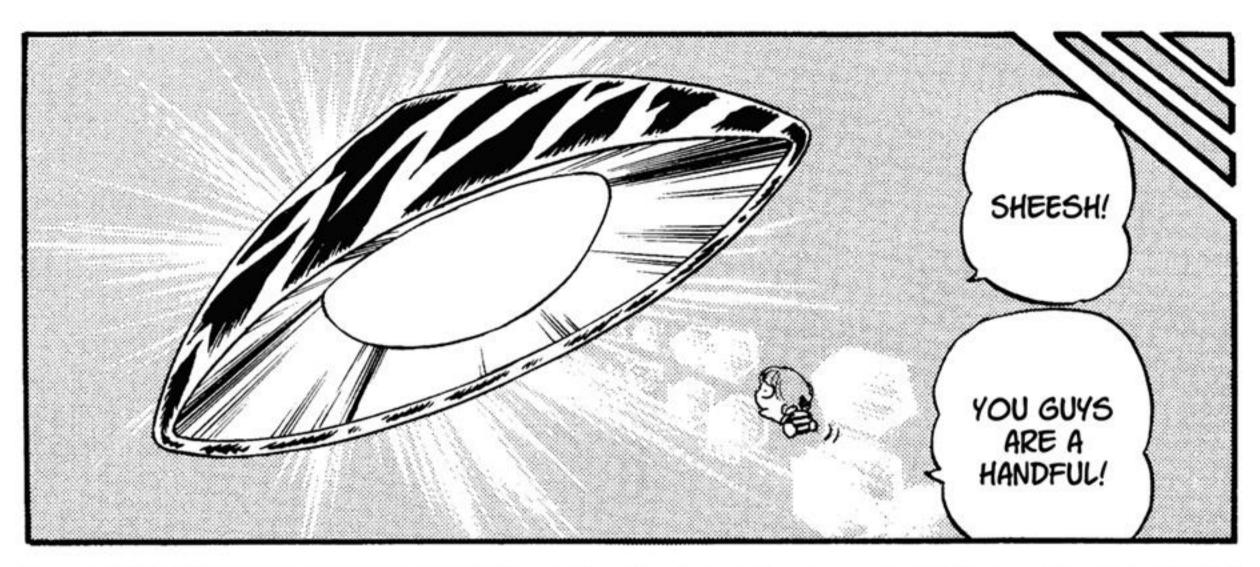
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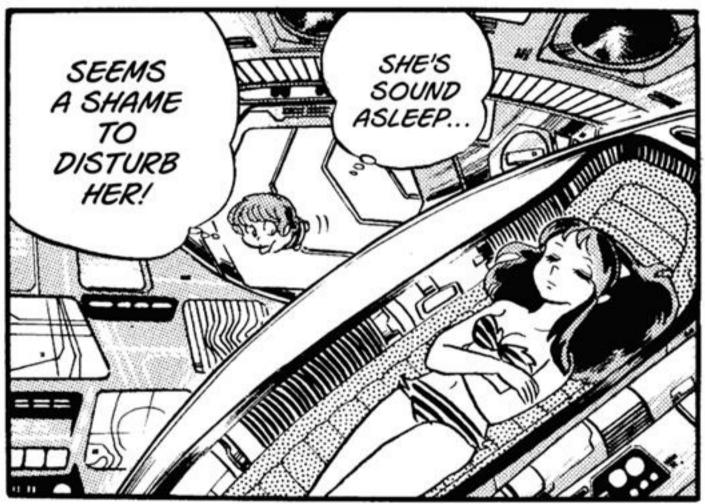


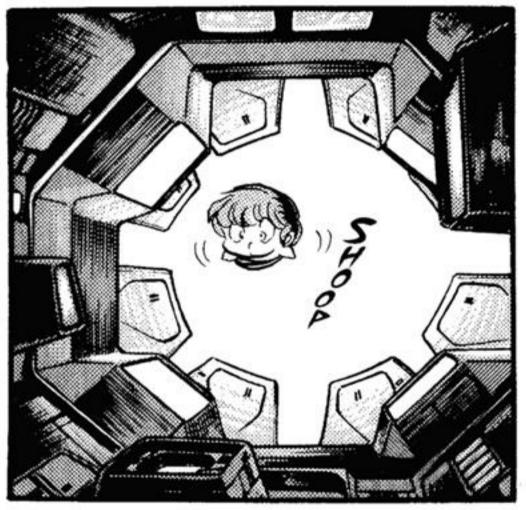












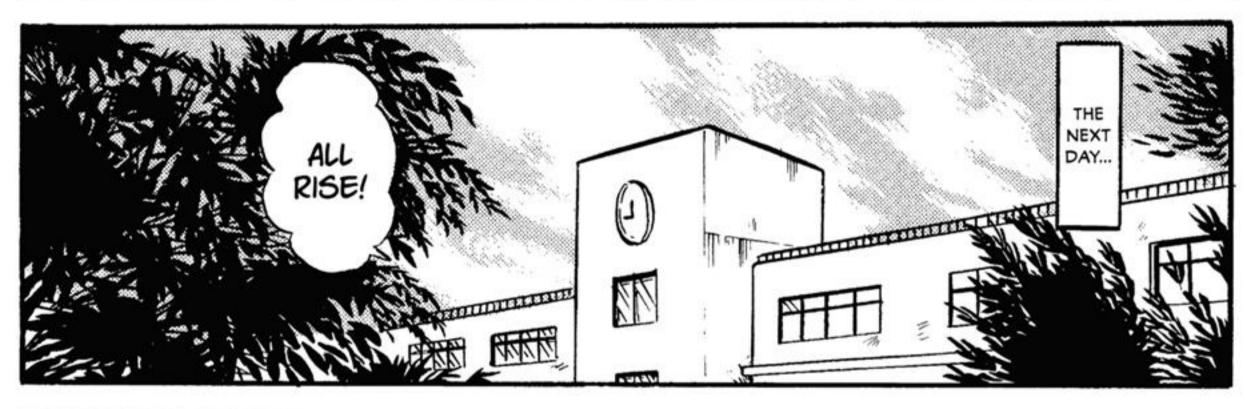


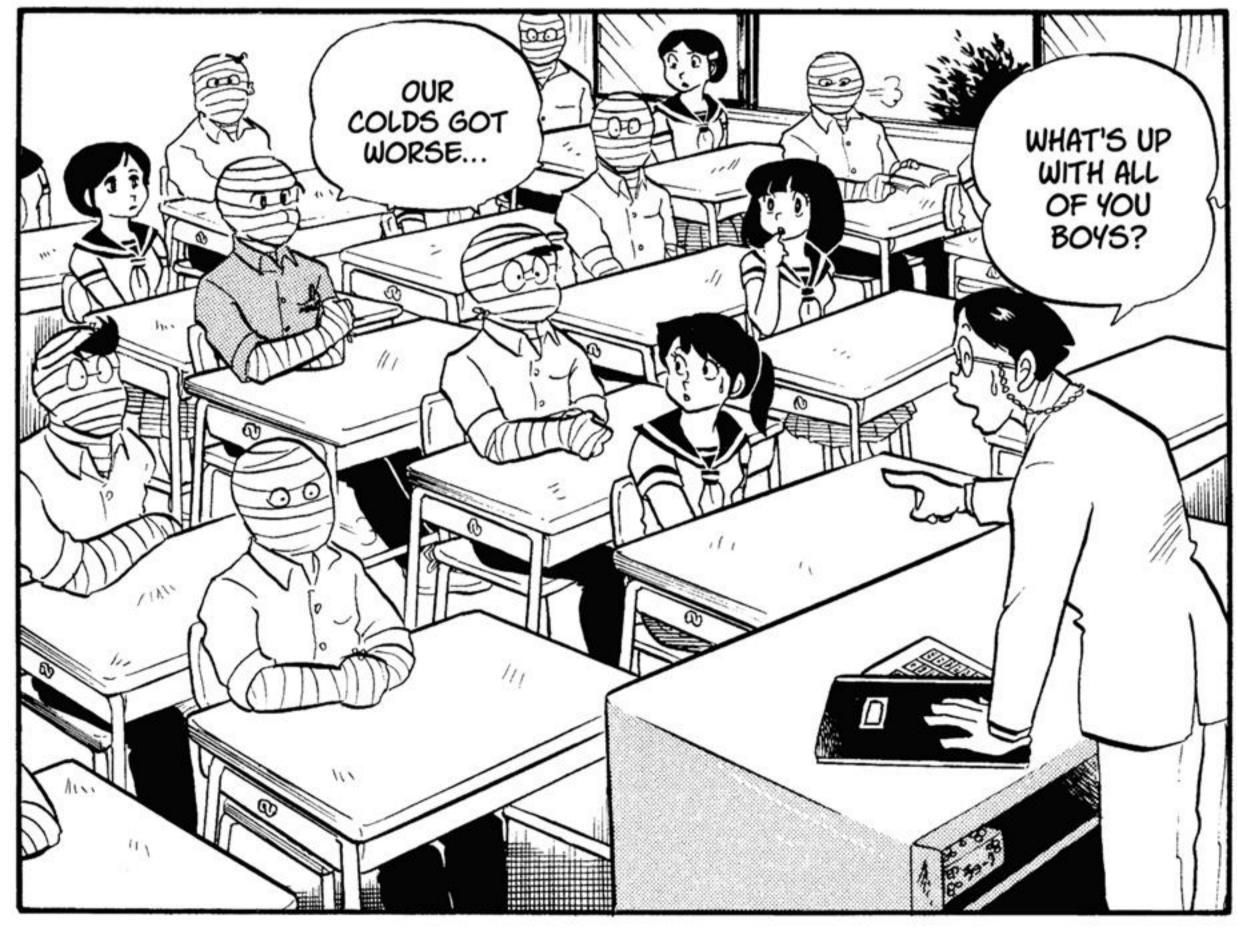


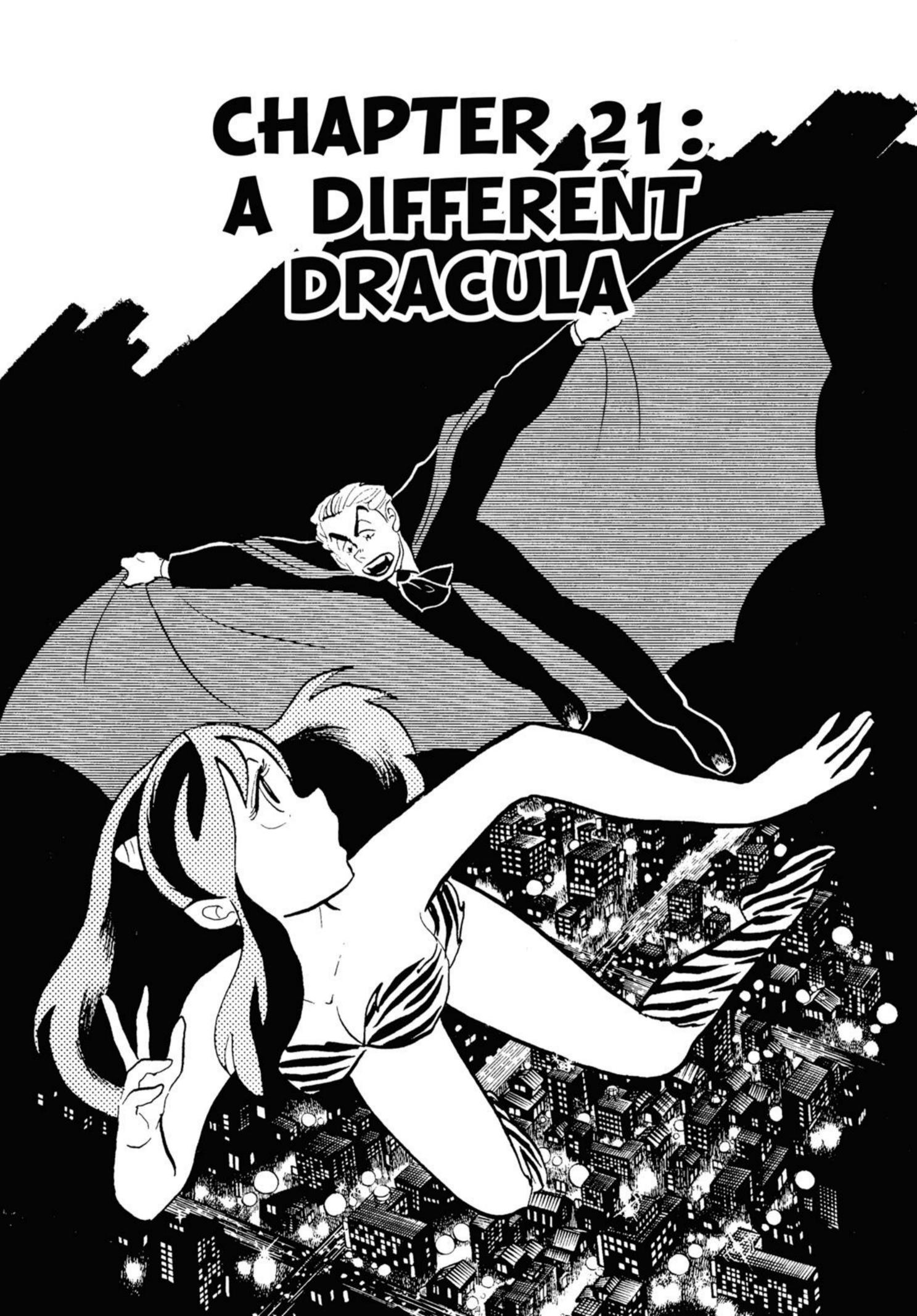






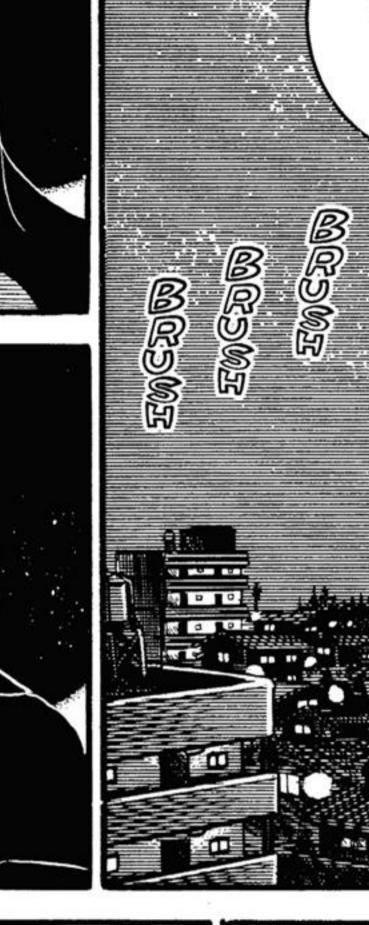








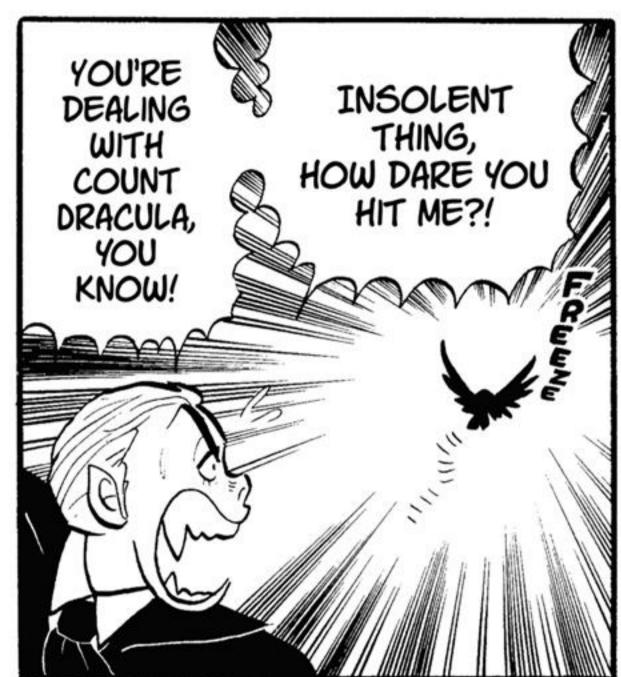




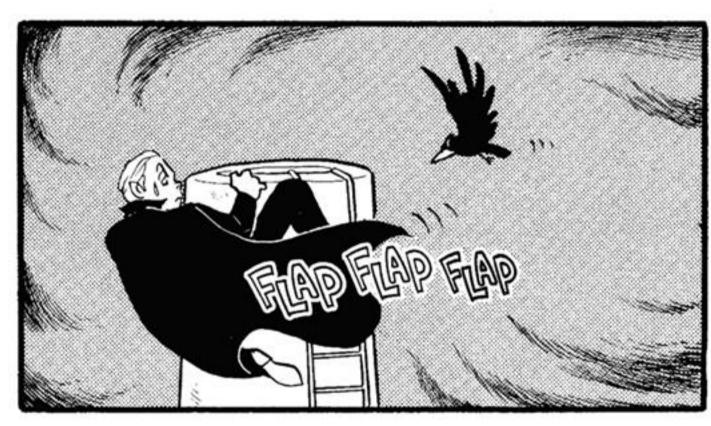




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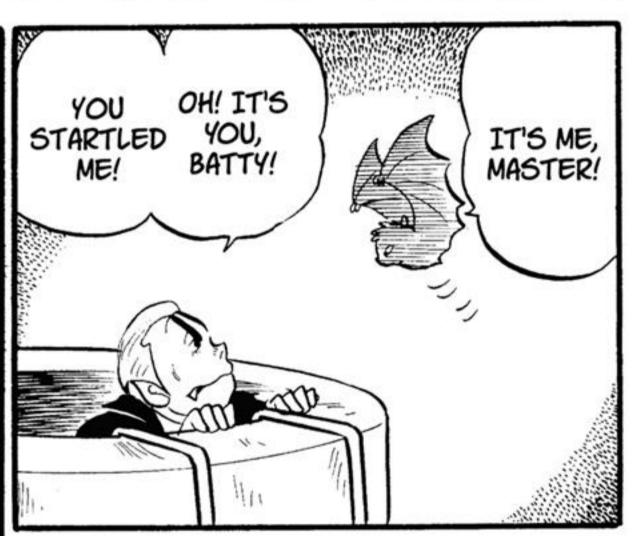






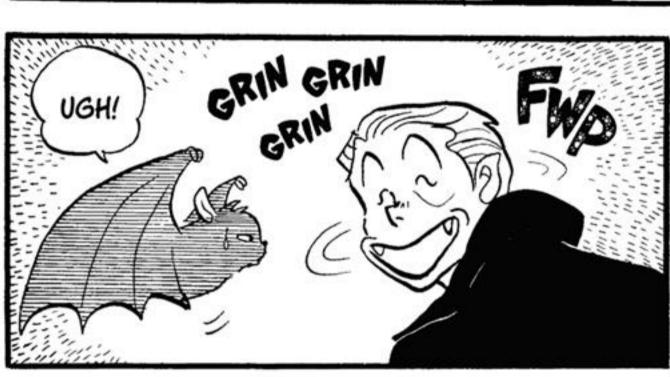




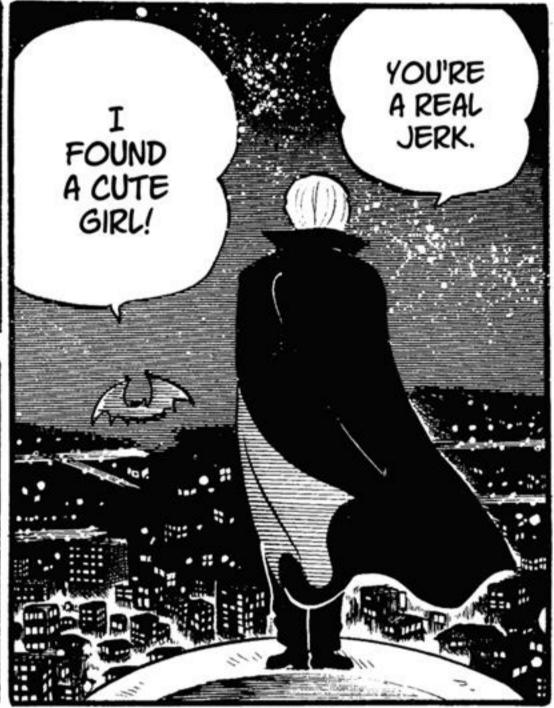










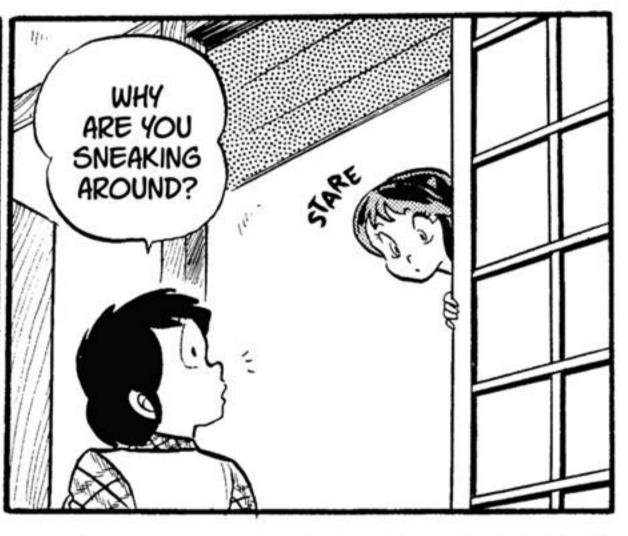


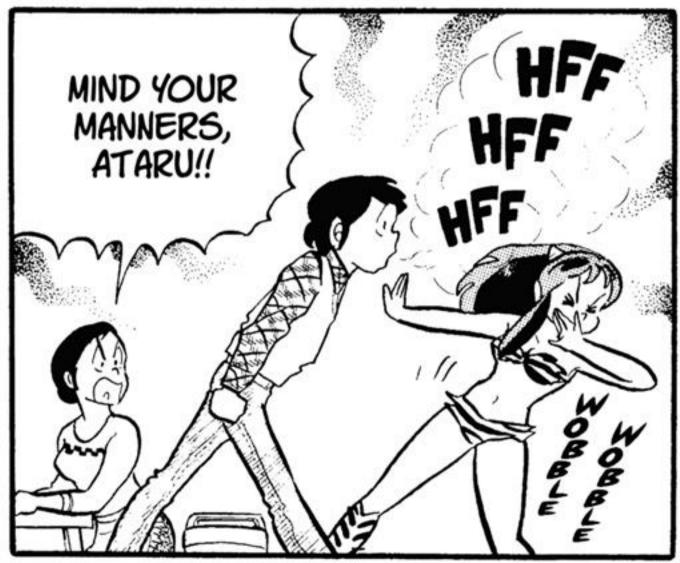








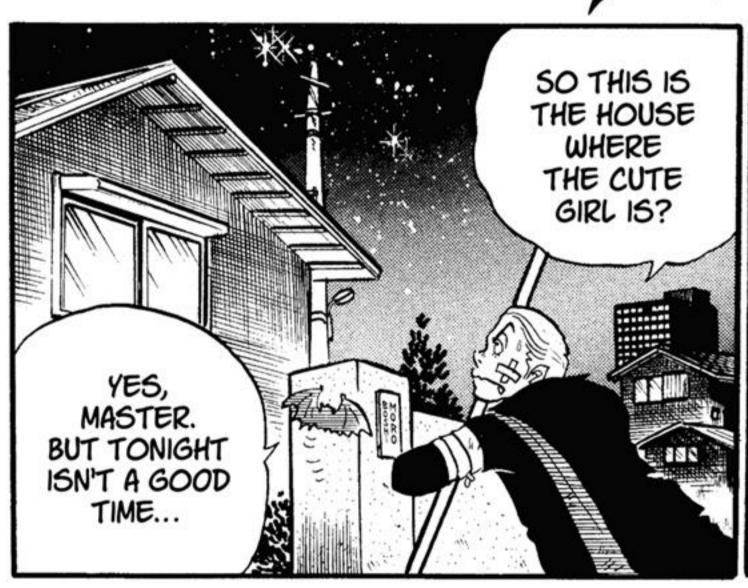






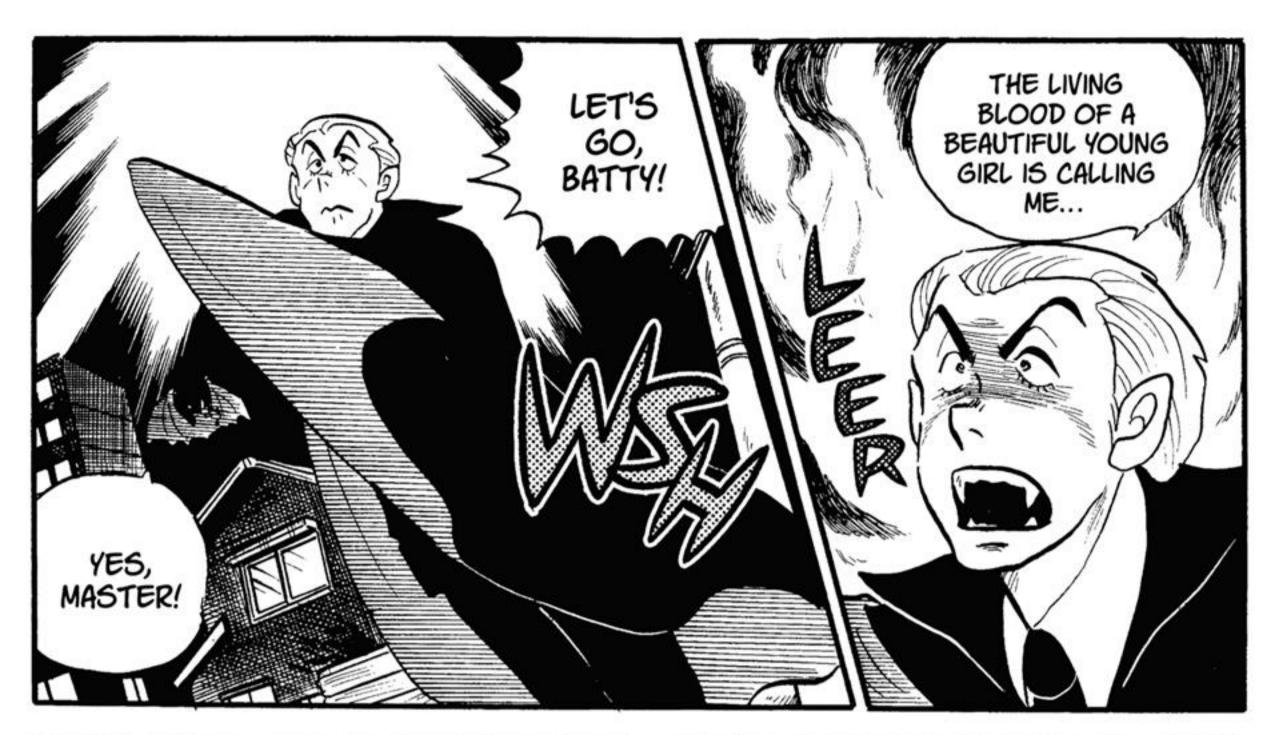


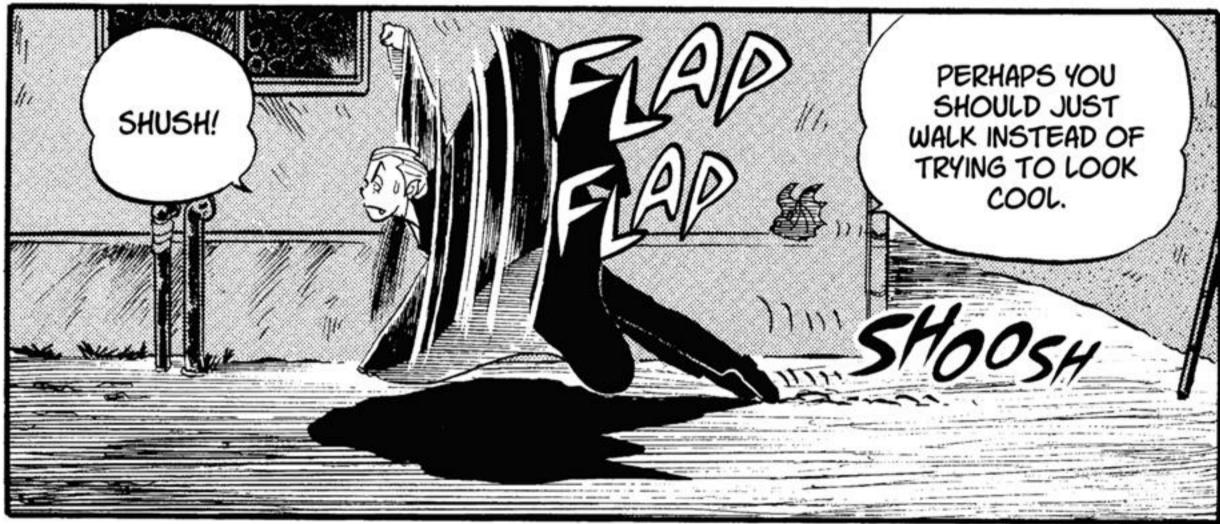










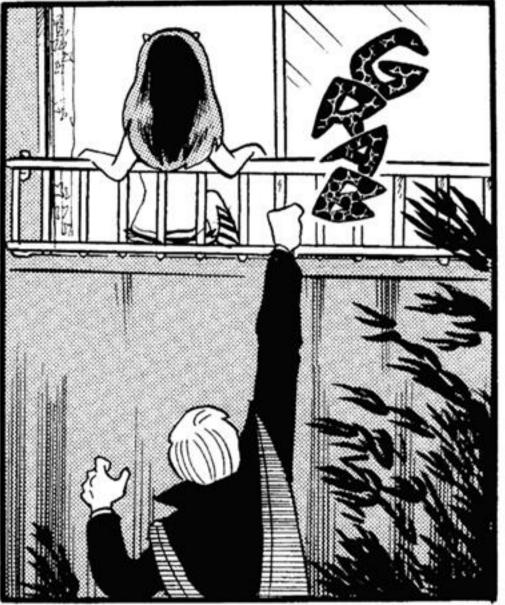


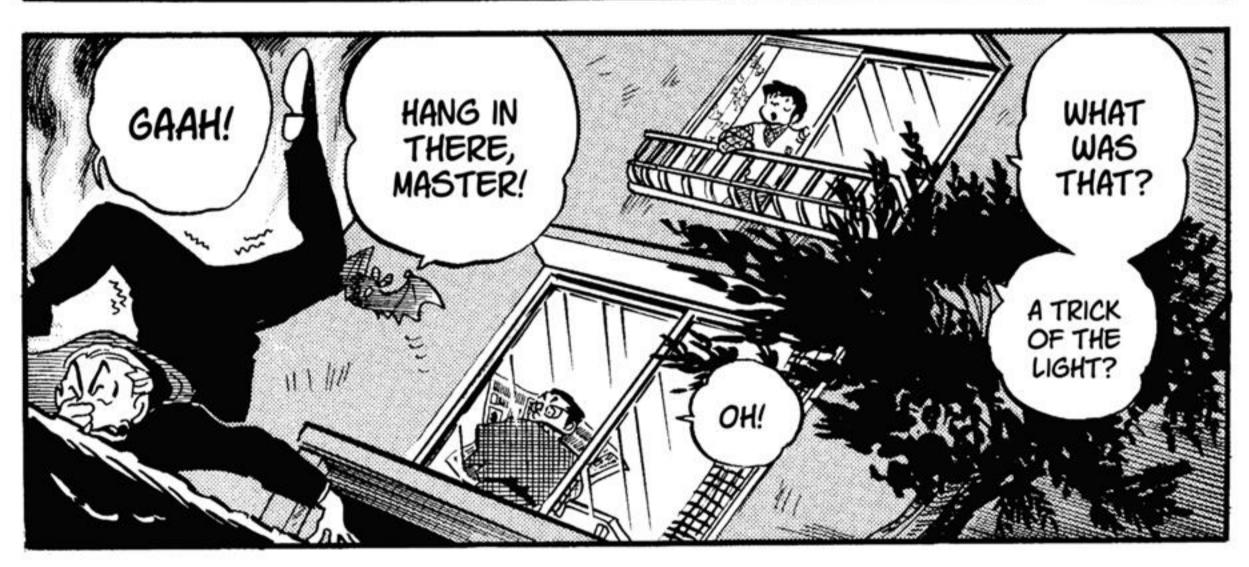


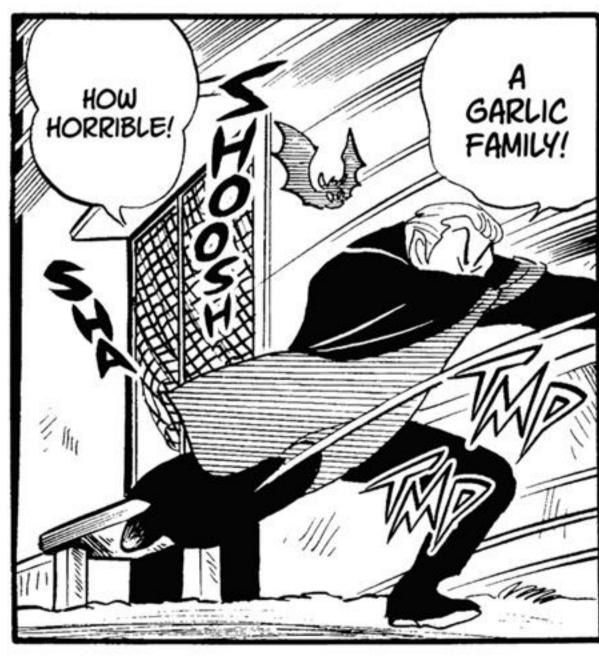




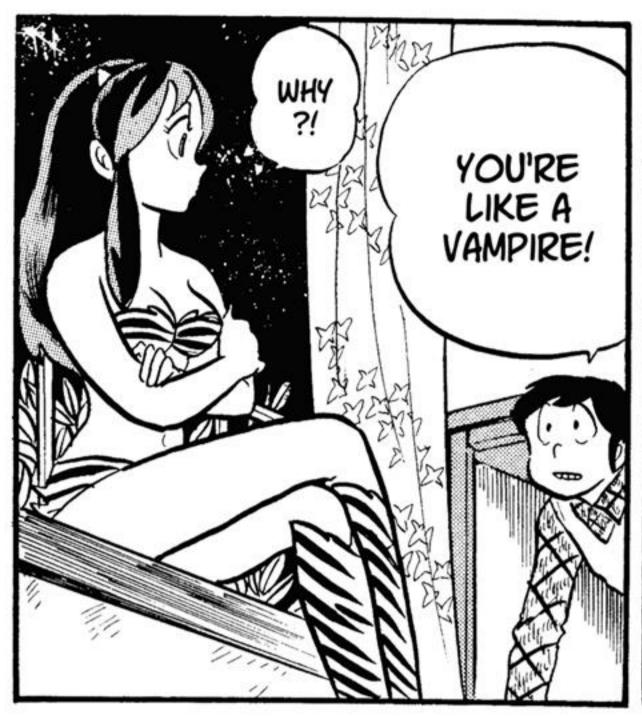




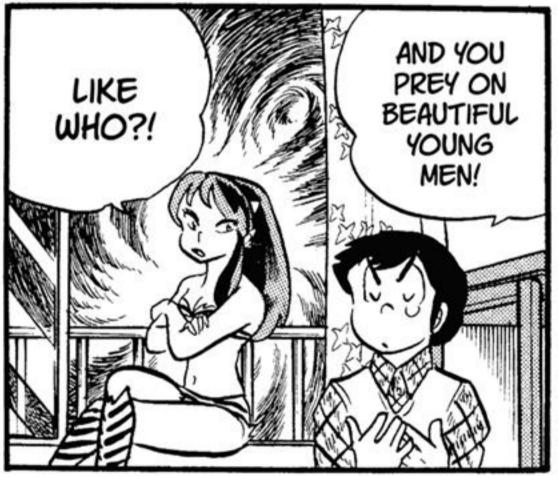






















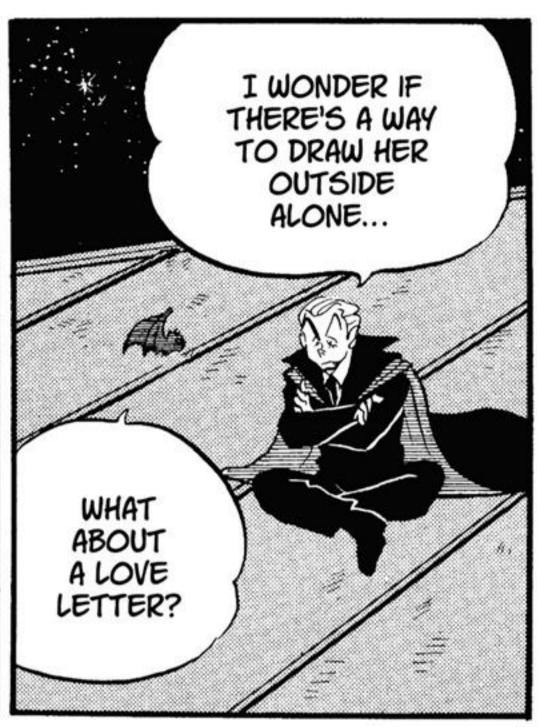
















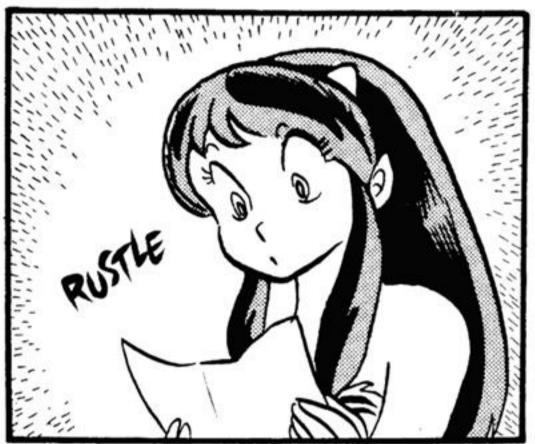






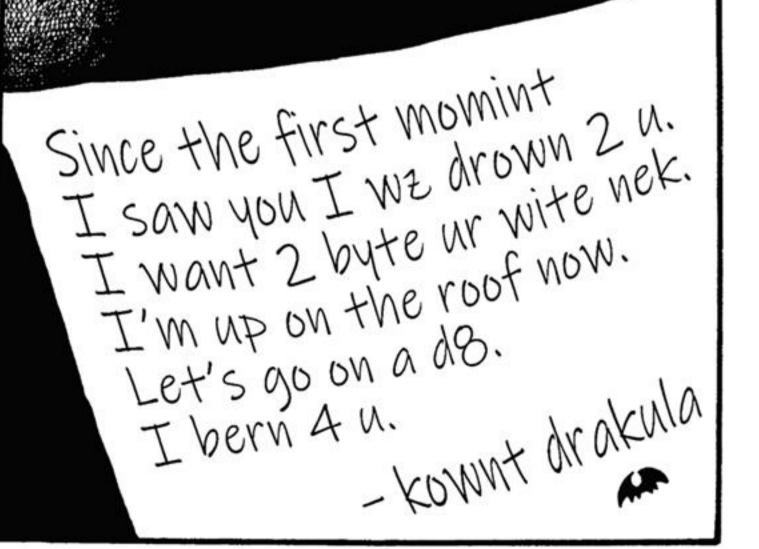


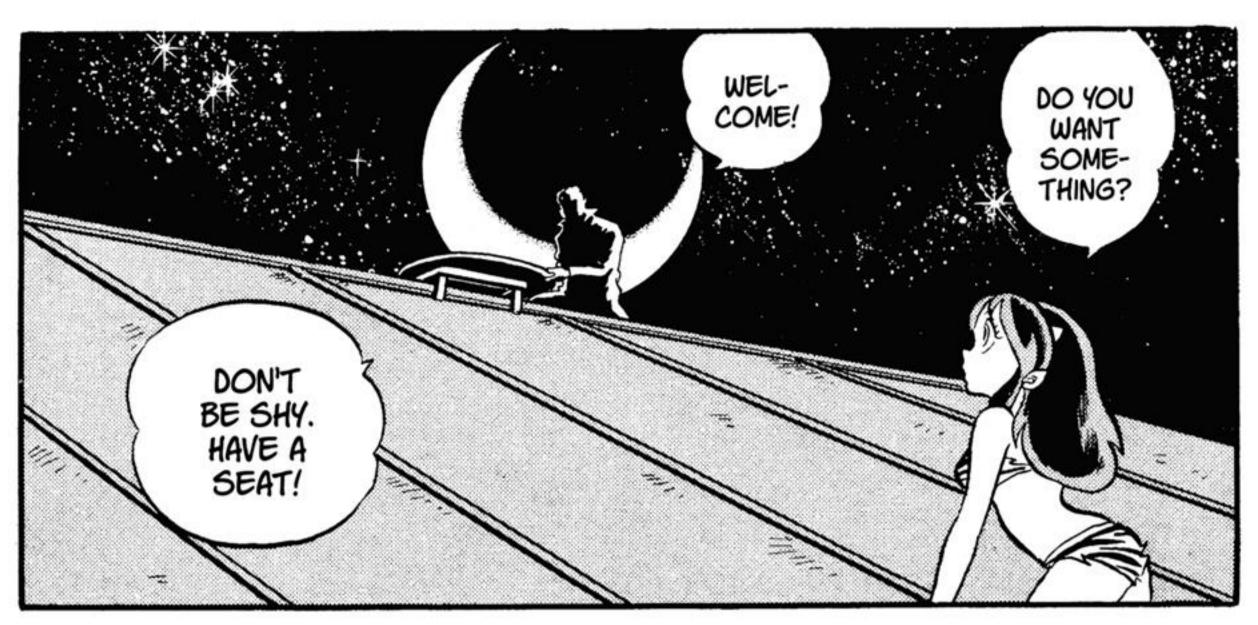




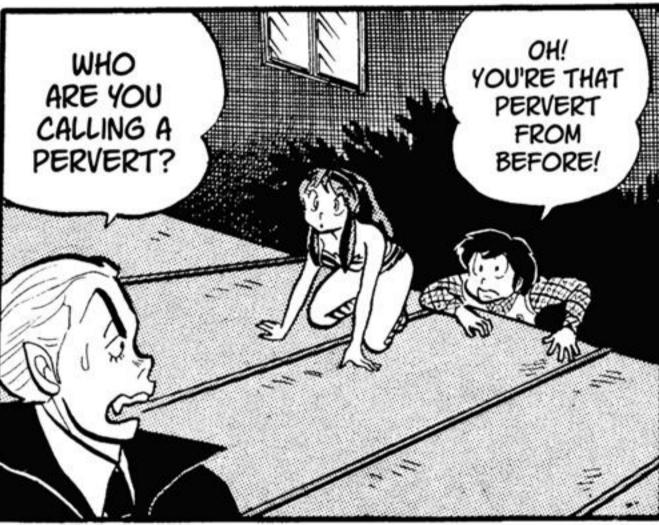






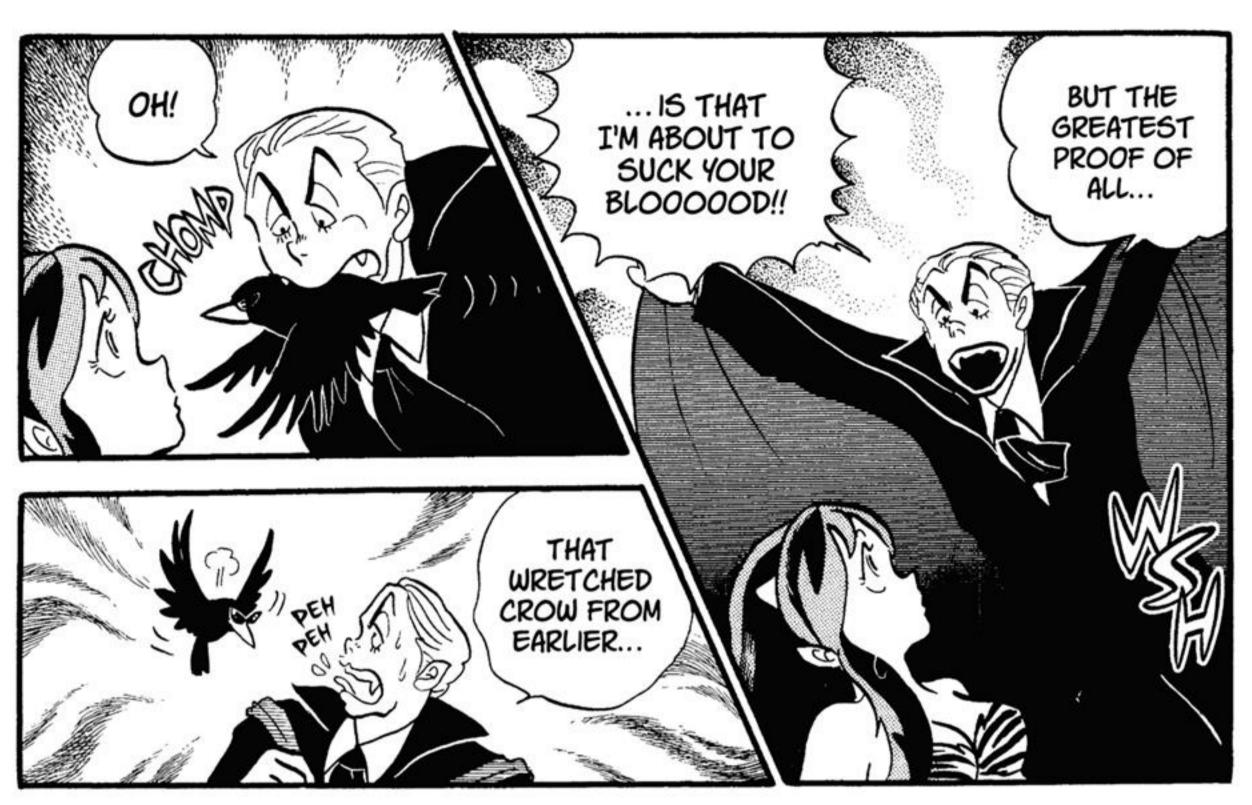








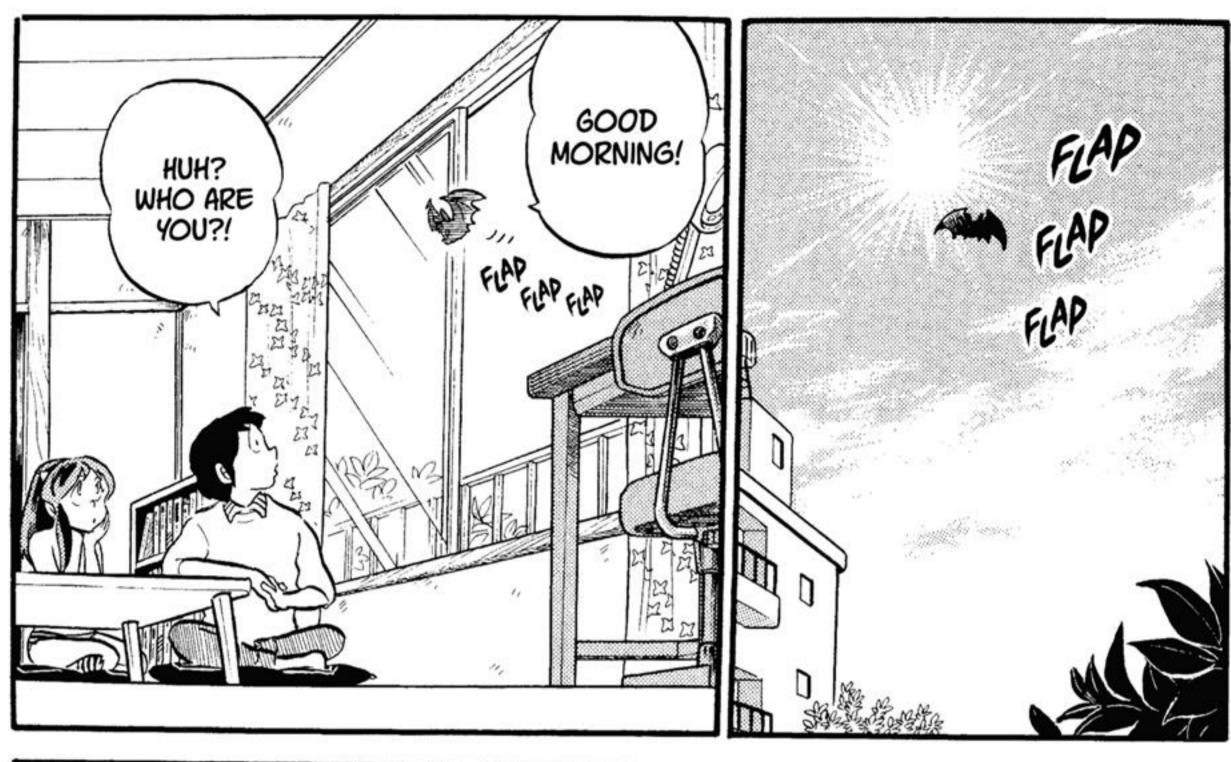


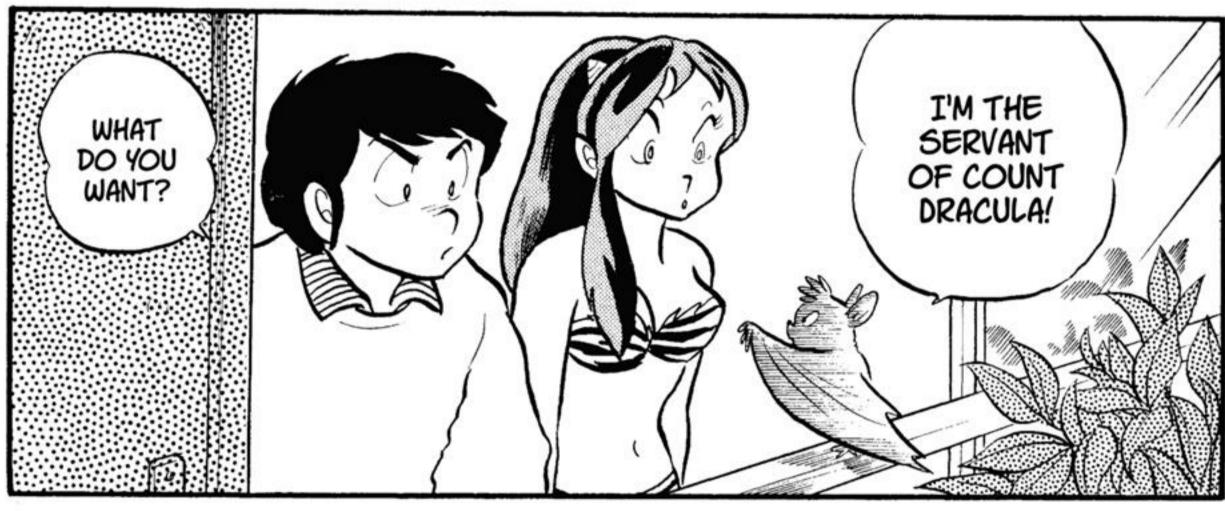




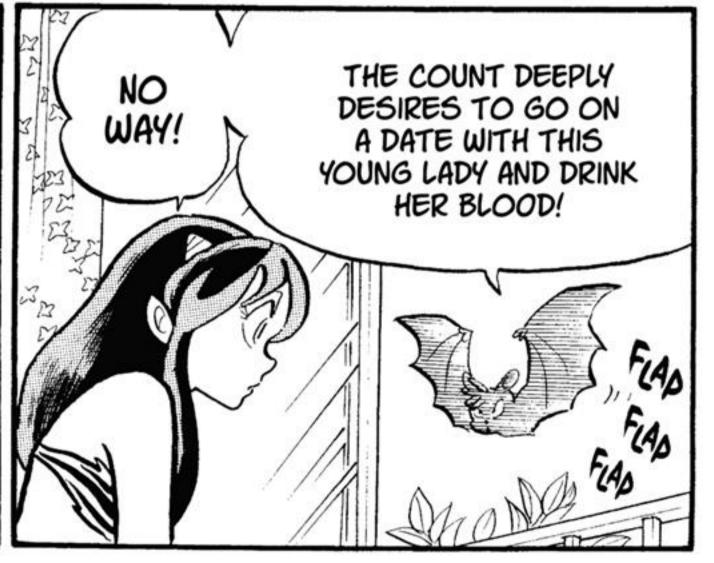


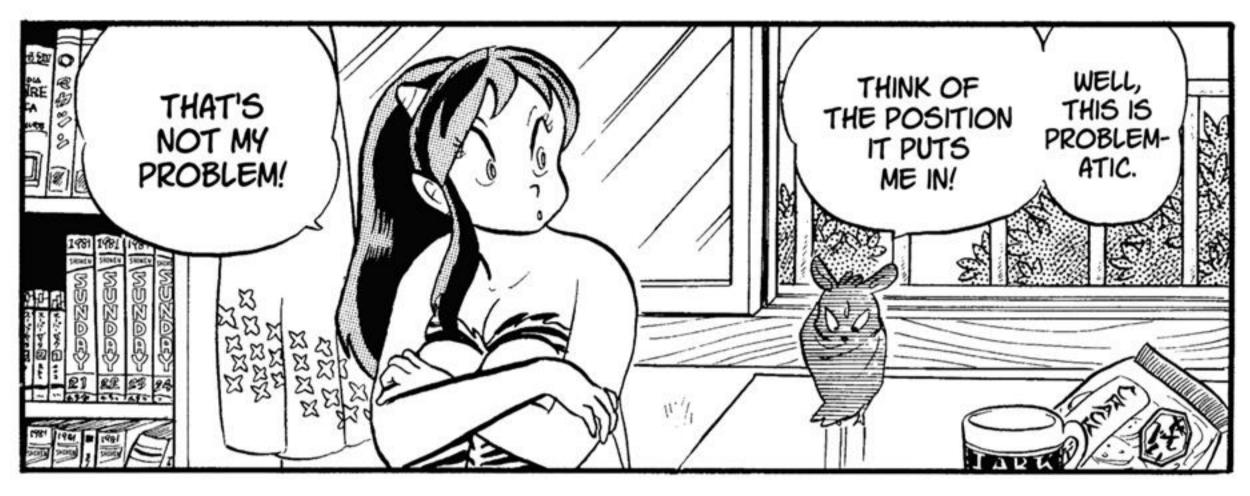










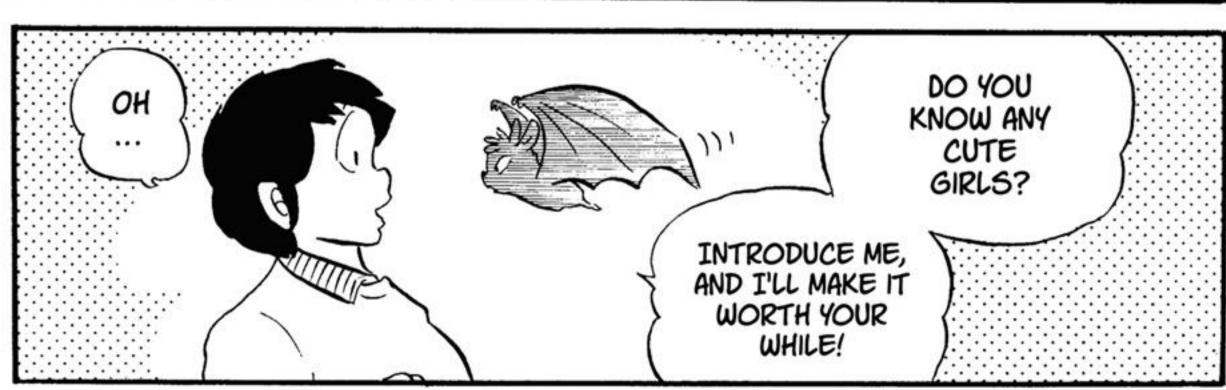


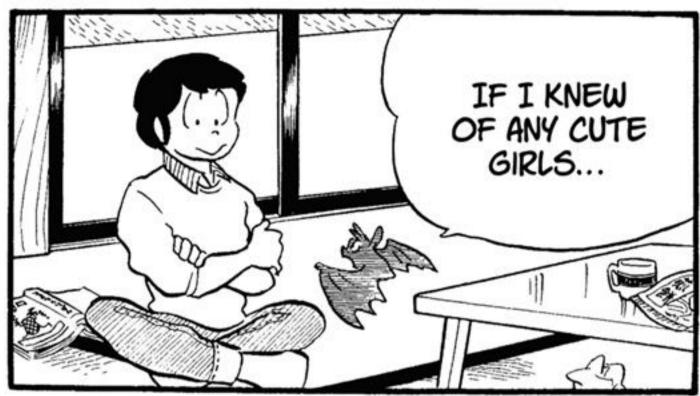






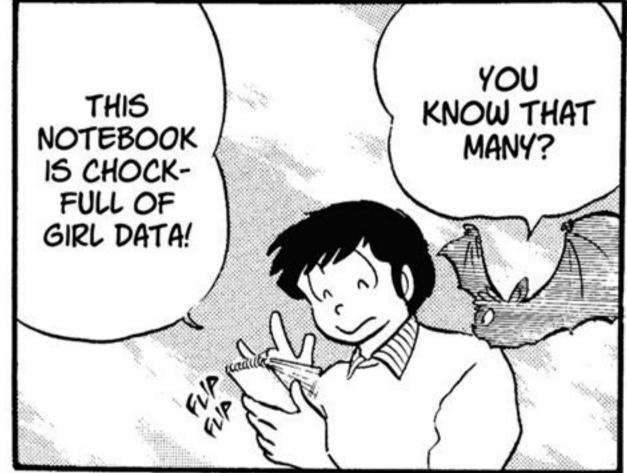












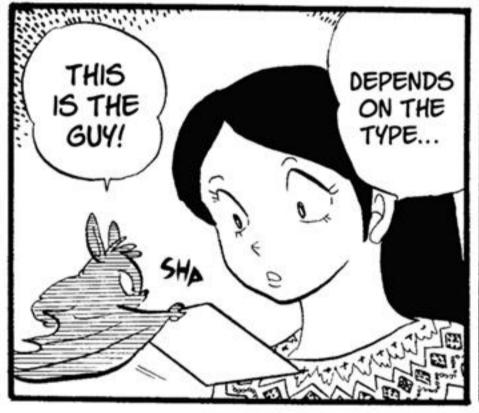


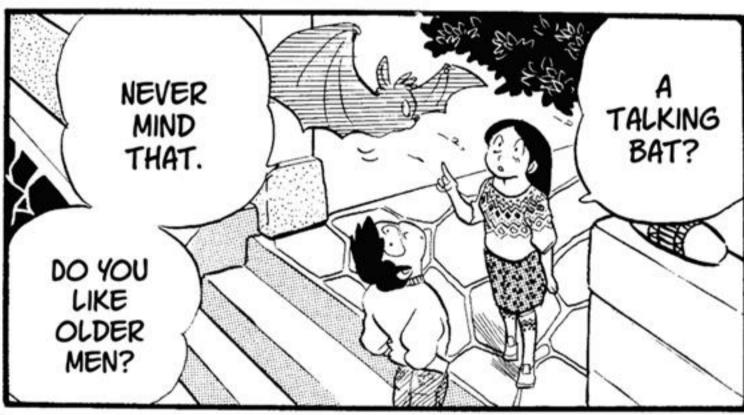






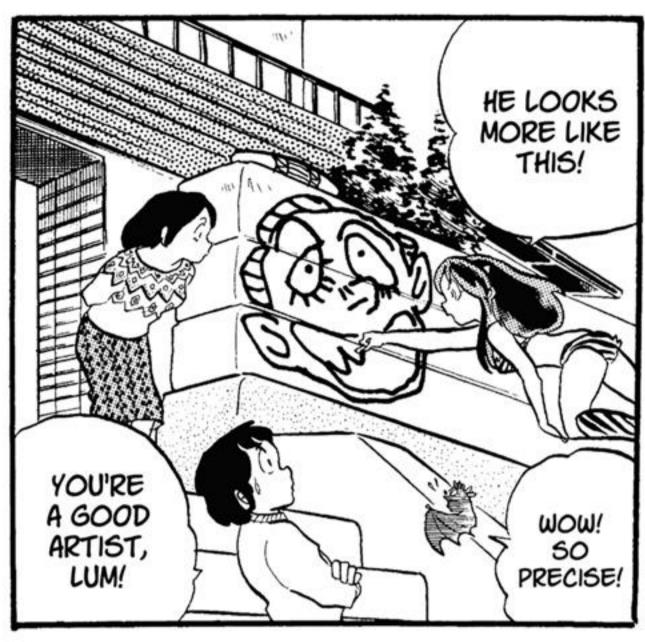
















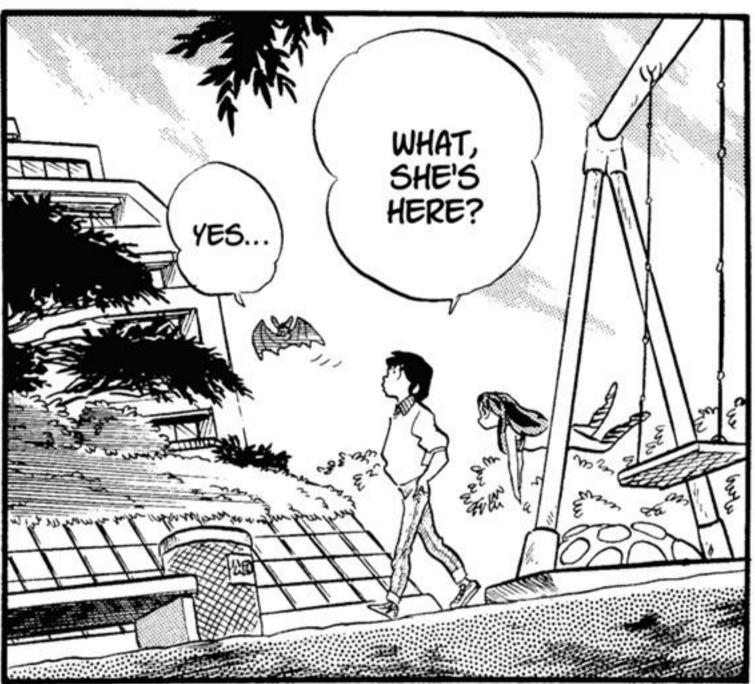


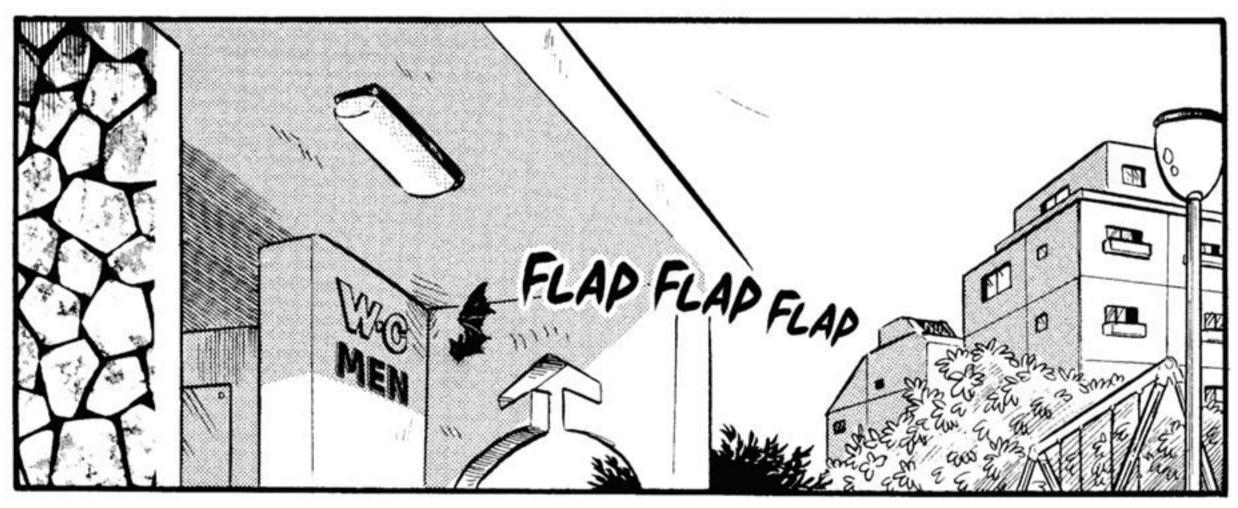


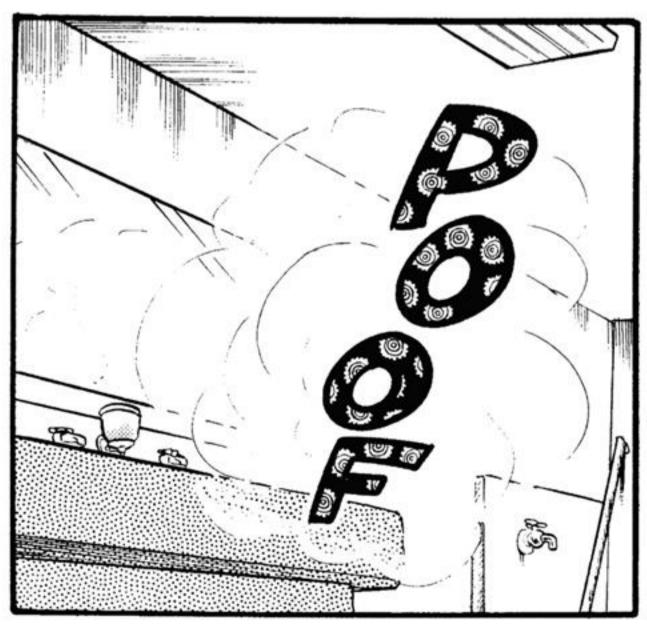
















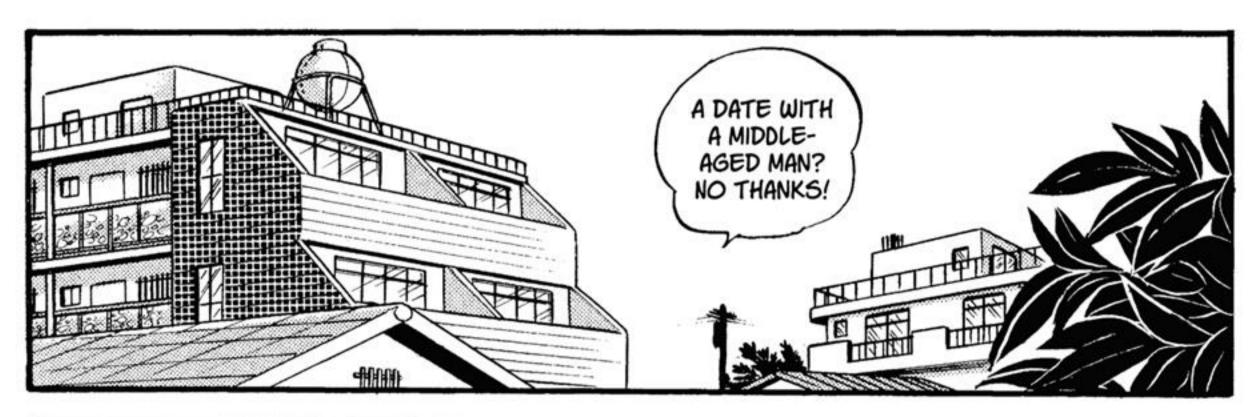


















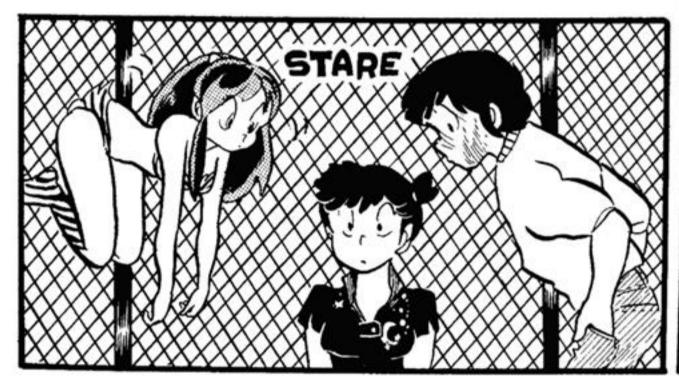








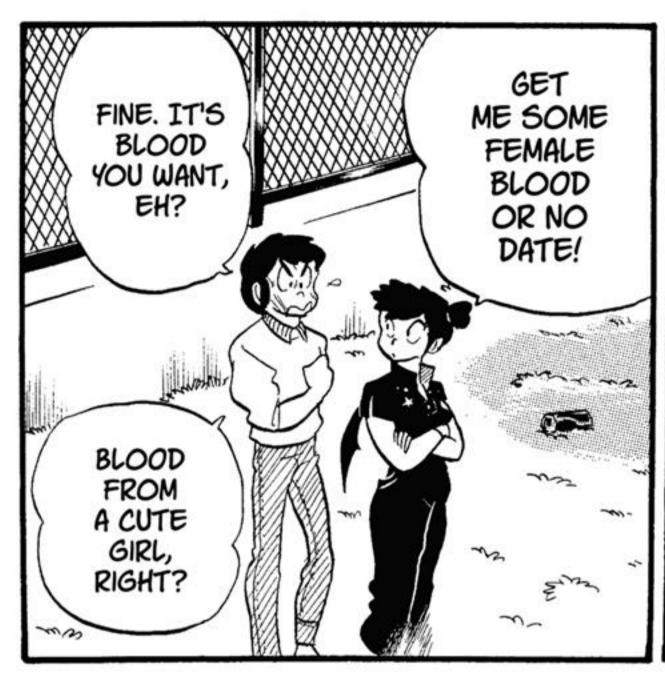




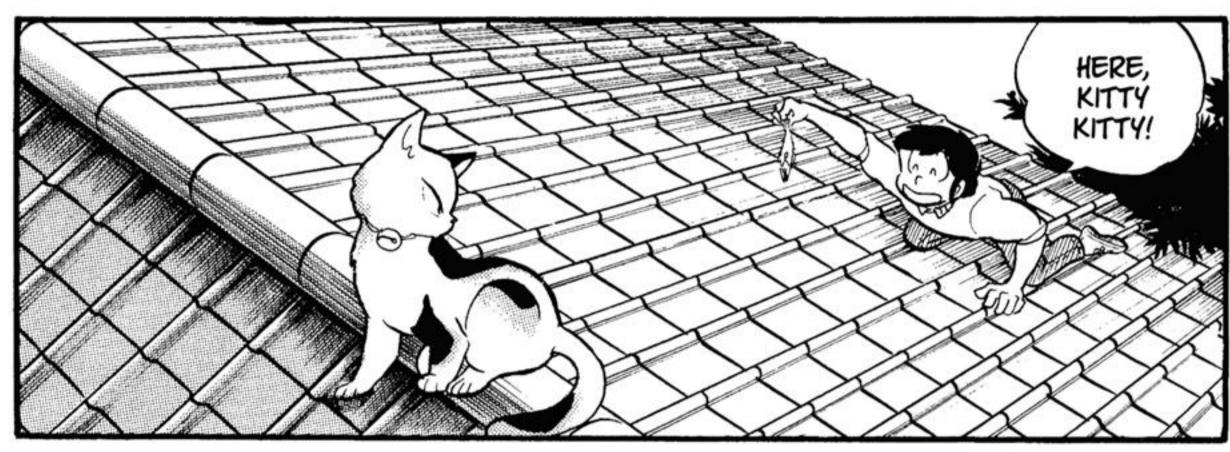
















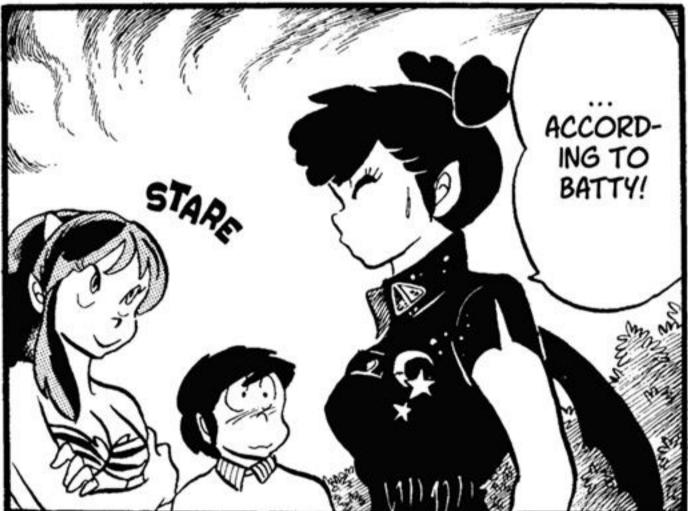


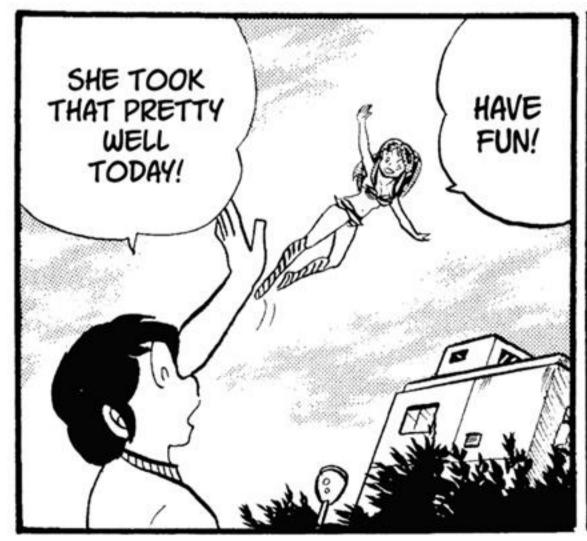


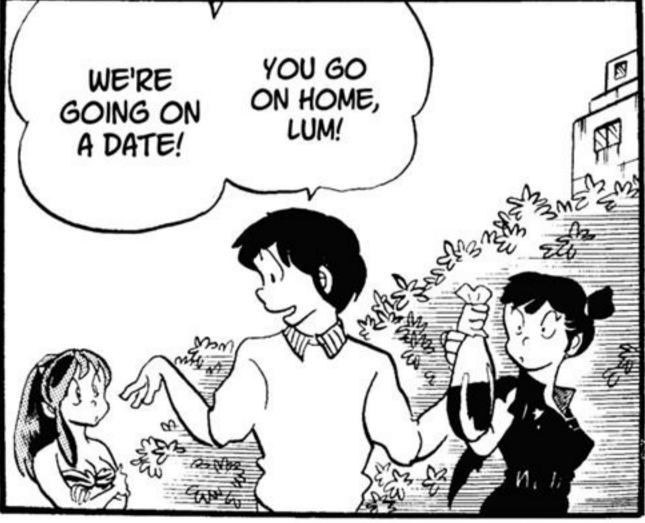










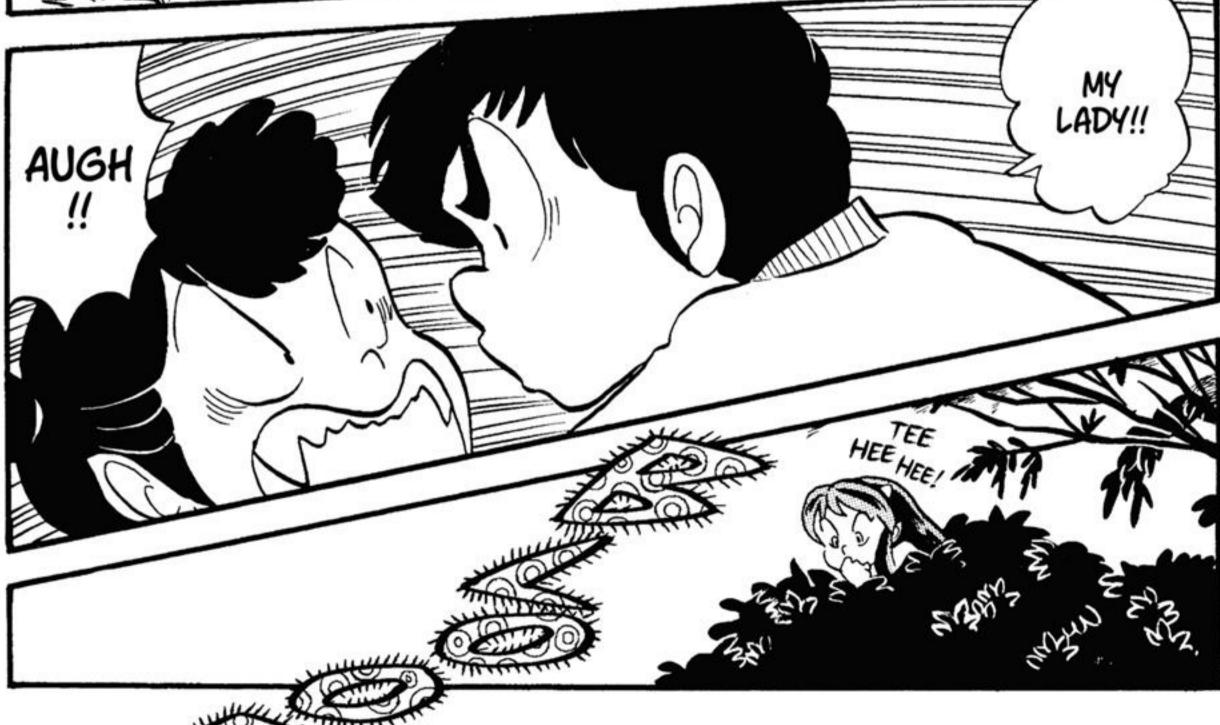


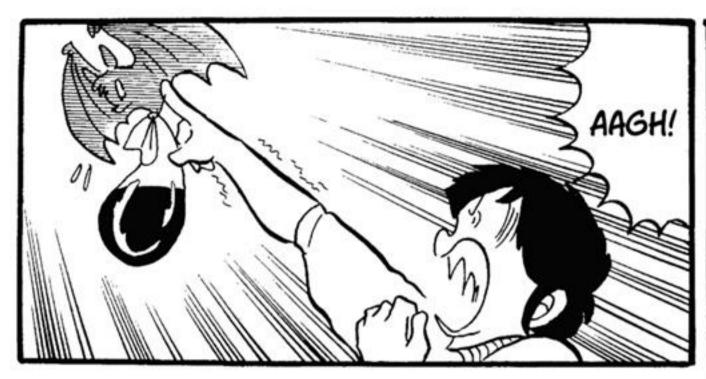






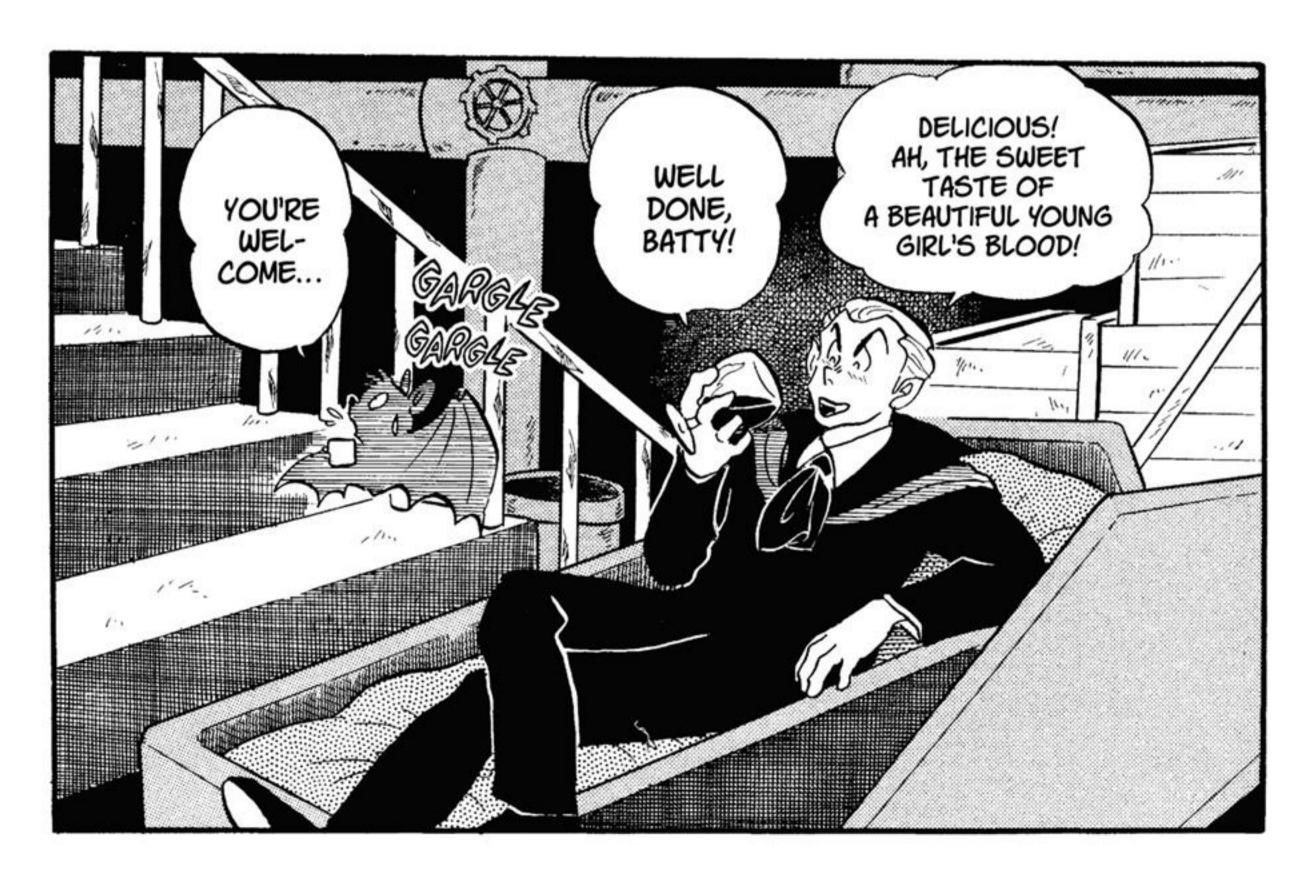












URUSEI YATSURA ★ DATA FILE 10

The Dumber the Child, the Greater the Love?!

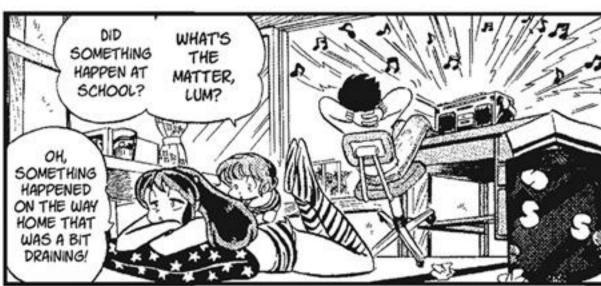
An In-Depth Examination of Maternal Love!

Homing in on a mother's attitudes and words, we take a closer look at this woman's utter devotion to her only son. The surprising qualities of the Moroboshi family's mother-son dynamic!

Whether lamenting hysterically, "I wish I'd never given birth to him!" (volume 1, chapter 5 "Between a Rock and a Hard Place"), or bawling, "Why has he grown

into such a moron?" (volume 2, chapter 1 "Father, You Were Strong"), Ataru's mother's daily life is fraught with incessant tribulations.

Certainly, Ataru's degree of idiocy is terrific, and one could hardly blame his mother were she to entertain dangerous notions (e.g., "Perhaps it would be better if he just joined a street gang and never came back"), but does Ataru's mother genuinely resent him? In this installment, we take a detailed look at Ataru's relationship to his mother!



▲ Ataru is an only child so he has dominion over the whole upstairs (volume 6, chapter 6 "Those were the days, PC!")



▲ She yells at Ataru's father when he wishes they could go back in time to before they had Ataru (volume 14, chapter 12 "Wish Upon A Star")

STUDY 2

Ataru's Mother Pampers Him?! ②

She Is Delighted by His Progress

When Ataru reinforces the windows of the house in preparation for a typhoon, Ataru's mother seems deeply pleased, gushing, "Well! You've finally become a useful member of the family!" (volume 5, chapter 18 "Typhoon Fun").

From this single incident, it is obvious how much Ataru's mother is gratified by his growth.

Ataru is at an age when boys are still children in some ways while beginning to acquire the strength of full-grown men. Moreover, Ataru is in high school, past the rebellious period of the early teen years.

hor growth to the feet of the



▲ A dramatic statement during a marital spat (volume 6, chapter 9 "There's a Cat on the Stairs!")



◀ The many travails of Ataru's mother (volume 13, chapter 9 "Chomp-Chomp, Everybody!")

STUDY 1

Ataru's Mother Pampers Him?! ①

Buttering His Toast...

Ataru's room is on the second floor, just up the staircase that leads from the front entryway. Because he is an only child, the entire upstairs is Ataru's private space. The room itself isn't terribly large, but there's enough space for Ataru to get rowdy with Ten, and it certainly isn't cramped.

In fact, Ataru seems quite blessed.

Compared to the Mendo residence, the Moroboshis' home might seem awfully shabby and working class, but it's hardly a fair comparison. Even with a mortgage to pay, the family of three lives in a single-family home in Tokyo, which is fairly good for a working-class household. Ataru is the only child—in other words, the heir. Perhaps that is a factor in how much energy his mother—a stay-at-home-mom—devotes to his care.

No matter what, she always packs his lunch (volume 1, chapter 12 "Intention") and has even been known to wait up without sleeping or eating for his return (volume 1, chapter 8 "Good Day for a Departure").

Moreover, she helps him get dressed! Exasperated at his sluggishness as she shouts "Can't you at least get yourself dressed?!" she also butters his toast for him at breakfast (volume 13, chapter 9 "Chomp-Chomp,

Everybody!").

They say we love our most challenging children the most. Even so, there are quite a few scenes that leave the reader wondering if perhaps Ataru's mother is a bit too soft on her teenage son!





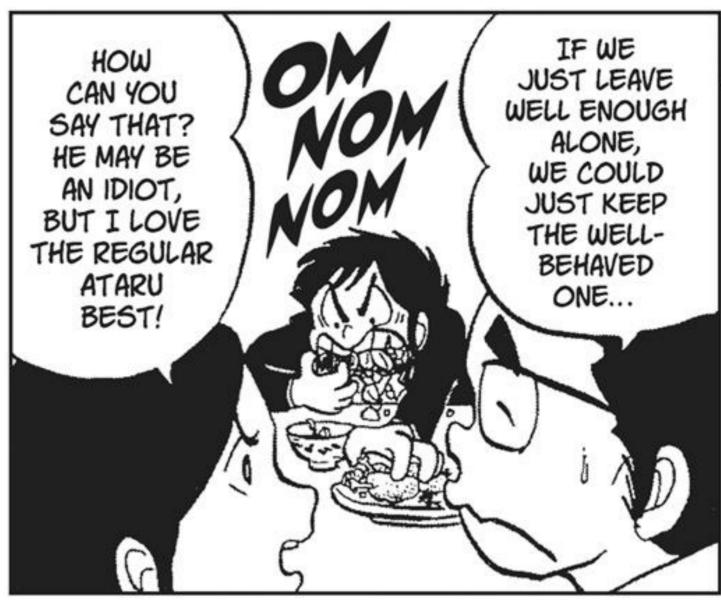
▲ Even in high school, Ataru depends on his mother to wake him up in the morning (volume 9, chapter 15 "A Night Alone")

Some teenagers might be ecstatic and throw a party when their parents go out of town, but apparently Ataru still feels lost without his mother around.

So while Ataru's mother gives the impression of lamenting her son's failings, the two share a very strong mother-child bond—even, perhaps, a bit too indulgent at times.

Is Ataru a sort of pseudo-sweetheart to his mother? Perhaps Ataru's propensity to be sweet on every girl he meets is connected to his mother's tender care.





■ Mothers just adore their sons (volume 2, chapter 3 "Without Even Saying Goodbye")

Perhaps it's only natural that Ataru's mother cries out in joy when she realizes that she can now rely on Ataru to do physical labor. This is hardly extraordinary, even for the mother of a child as idiotic as Ataru.

Also, when Ataru's father makes a Tanabata wish to live his life over again, Ataru's mother hugs him and pledges, "Even if your dad and I split up, I'll see to it you can go to college!" (volume 14, chapter 12 "Wish Upon A Star"). Other people might think that sending a son like Ataru to college would be a waste of money since all he would do there is hit on girls, but Ataru's mother still has high hopes for his future.

STUDY 3

Ataru's Mother Pampers Him?! ③

Ataru Doesn't Mind, Either!

How does Ataru feel about the copious maternal affection lavished upon him? Rather good, it would seem.

In high school, teenagers begin to invest more in friendships with peers and in relationships with the opposite sex. At this stage, excessive parental attention is often met with annoyance but not in Ataru's case.

When his mother bursts into his room without knocking, Ataru doesn't get angry; in fact, he seems to take it as a matter of course (volume 7, chapter 10 "The Grateful Tanuki"). When his mother goes away on a trip, Ataru sobs into the telephone, "Hurry up and come home!" (volume 1, chapter 9 "Showdown").



The most

common TV

programs...

Anyway

We counted

them up!

News programs are the most relevant?!

The characters of *Urusei Yatsura* seem to pay a fair bit of attention to television. When we investigated what kind of shows were most commonly depicted in the manga, a samurai show was the most common, with 13 appearances. However, this is because Shingo is convinced that one of the characters on the samurai show is his grandfather (volume 15, chapter 1 "Electric Jungle, Part 1"). The other characters in the series have no particular preference for samurai shows.

In second place, news programs are featured in the manga 12 times. This is because Ataru and company are frequently involved in trouble big enough to make the news. Often, the segments are breaking news bulletins.

Appearances on Missing-Persons Shows

Not only do the characters watch TV a lot, they also appear on TV fairly often. On three occasions, they appear on talk shows with a missing-persons theme. The first time, Lum, Shinobu and Cherry appear, searching for Ataru (volume 1, chapter 4 "Present for You"). The other two appearances are by Ryunosuke's

father, once in search of his wife Masako (volume 9, chapter 8 "Trickle of Memories"), and once in search of Ryunosuke (volume 9, chapter 9 "Album of Memories").

TV sets are also used as weapons on occasion, such as the one wielded by Ryunosuke to attack her father (volume 9, chapter 8 "Trickle of Memories") and the one thrown into the ring during the Miss Tomobiki Contest (volume 9, chapter 19 "Miss

Thus, the characters of *Urusei Yatsura* are truly attached to their TVs in various ways.

Tomobiki Contest: Finals").



Ataru watched TV in a ramen shop while on the lam (volume 1, chapter 4 "Present for You")



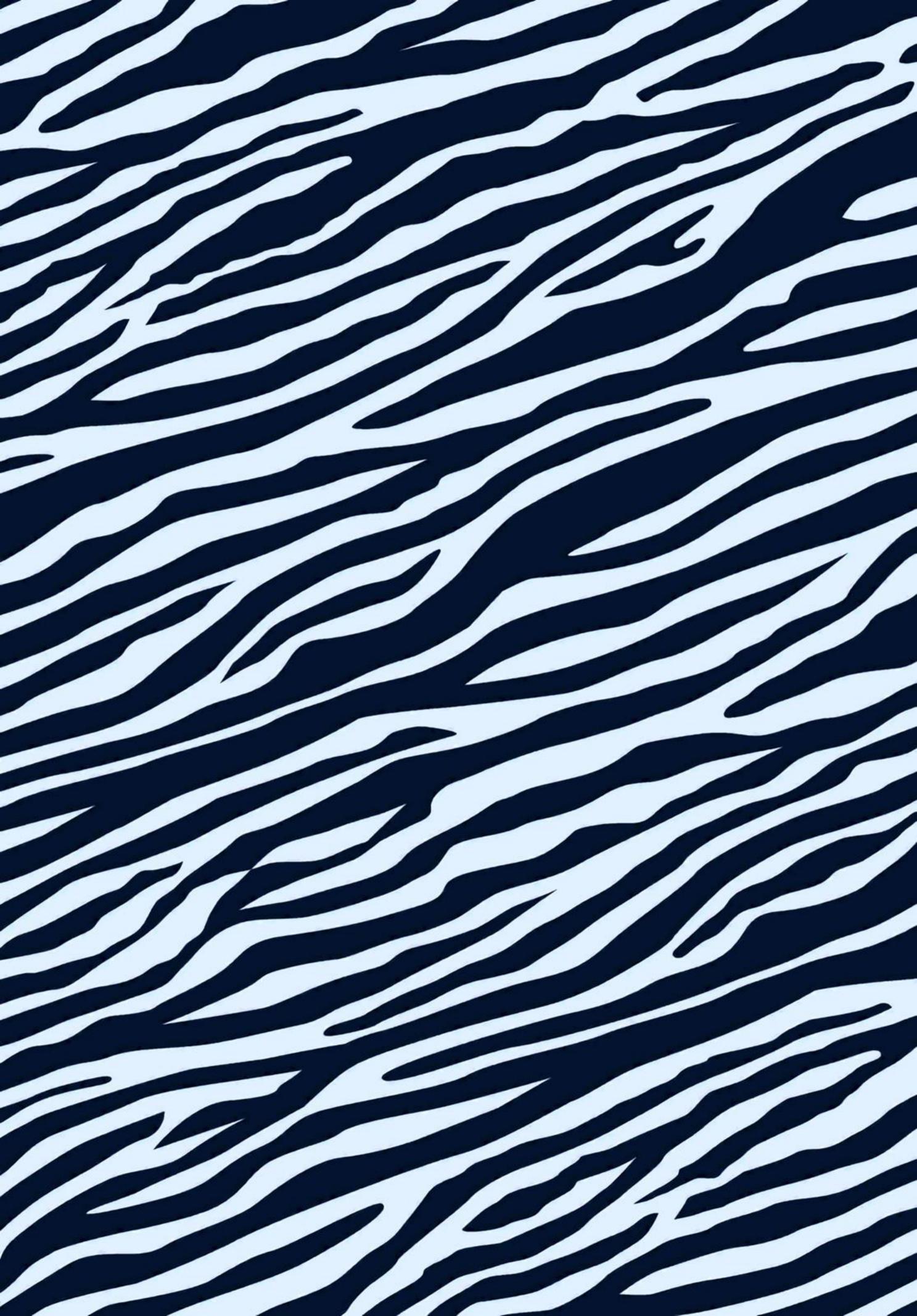
The only TV in the Moroboshi house is in the living room. With a clock and a kokeshi doll on top, it doubles as furniture.

Number of times a TV show appears in the story......48 Content of TV shows:

Samurai shows (13 times), news shows (12 times), singing shows (3 times), shopping shows (3 times), animal shows (3 times), dramas (twice), children's shows (twice), cooking show, Family Sauna Man, late-night celebrity show, weather forecast, live sumo broadcast, live baseball broadcast, soapmaking show (once each)

Number of times TV is used as a weapon.....

Author: Kyoko Sugimori Concept: Masatake Sugimori





Rumiko Takahashi



The spotlight on Rumiko Takahashi's career began in 1978 when she won an honorable mention in Shogakukan's prestigious New Comic Artist Contest for *Those Selfish Aliens*. Later that same year, her boy-meets-alien comedy series, *Urusei Yatsura*, was serialized in *Weekly Shonen Sunday*. This phenomenally successful manga series was adapted into anime format and spawned a TV series and half a dozen theatrical-release movies, all incredibly popular in their own right. Takahashi followed up the success of her debut series with one blockbuster hit after another—*Maison Ikkoku* ran from 1980 to 1987, *Ranma 1/2* from 1987 to 1996, and *Inuyasha* from 1996 to 2008. Other notable works include *Mermaid Saga*, *Rumic Theater*, and *One-Pound Gospel*.

Takahashi was inducted into the Will Eisner Comic Awards Hall of Fame in 2018. In 2019, she won the Grand Prix at FIDB Angoulême. She won the prestigious Shogakukan Manga Award twice in her career, once for Urusei Yatsura in 1981 and the second time for Inuyasha in 2002. Her series have sold over 200 million copies worldwide as of March 2017. A majority of the Takahashi canon has been adapted into other media such as anime, live-action TV series, and film. Takahashi's manga, as well as the other formats her work has been adapted into, have continued to delight generations of fans around the world. Distinguished by her wonderfully endearing characters, Takahashi's work adeptly incorporates a wide variety of elements such as comedy, romance, fantasy, and martial arts. While her series are difficult to pin down into one simple genre, the signature style she has created has come to be known as the "Rumic World." Rumiko Takahashi is an artist who truly represents the very best from the world of manga. Her current series RIN-NE is available in North America from VIZ Media.



URUSEI YATSURA

VIZ Signature Edition Vol.5

STORY AND ART BY

RUMIKO TAKAHASHI

URUSEI YATSURA [SHINSOBAN] Vol.9, 10 by Rumiko TAKAHASHI © 2006 Rumiko TAKAHASHI All rights reserved.

Original Japanese edition published by SHOGAKUKAN. English translation rights in the United States of America, Canada, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand arranged with SHOGAKUKAN.

Translation & English Adaptation/Camellia Nieh Lettering/Jeannie Lee Design/Yukiko Whitley Editor/Amy Yu

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Printed in the U.S.A.

Published by VIZ Media, LLC P.O. Box 77010 San Francisco, CA 94107

10987654321 First printing, February 2020





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